

H I S T O R Y  
A N D  
A N T I Q U I T I E S  
O F T H E  
C O U N T Y o f N O R F O L K .

V O L U M E VI.

C O N T A I N I N G

T H E H U N D R E D S O F

North Greenhoe, South Greenhoe,  
Grimshoe, and Guiltcrofs.

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*Pro me: si merear, in me.*

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N O R W I C H :

P R I N T E D B Y J. C R O U S E , F O R M. B O O T H , B O O K S E L L E R .

M.DCC.LXXXI.

ХЯТЫН

СИД

САЩУДОМ

СИД

СОГАЛЫМОНОВИЧ



БІБЛІОТЕКА ГУМАНОЛОГІЧНОГО  
УНІВЕРСИТЕТУ

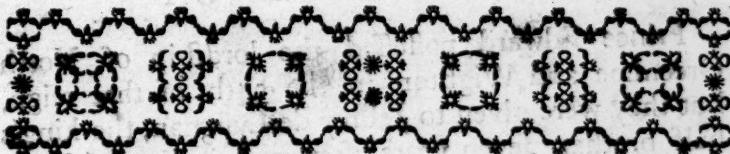
ГУМАНОЛОГІЧНИЙ ЦЕНТР

БІБЛІОТЕКА

БІБЛІОТЕКА

БІБЛІОТЕКА СТАДІОНА

БІБЛІОТЕКА



T H E  
H I S T O R Y  
O F  
N O R F O L K.

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HUNDRED of N. GREENHOE.

THE royalties of this hundred, as also of  
the lordship of Wighton, are recorded  
in Doomday-book to be at that time in  
the crown, in like manner as Edward  
the Confessor had possessed them.

Henry II. granted it to William de Kaion, or Ken,  
who confirmed to the priory church of Norwich, all  
the right and jurisdiction which he had in lands be-  
longing to them in this liberty: but in the 29th of  
Henry III. William, the grandson of Ken the Nor-  
man, forfeited it on his rebellion against that mon-  
arch, and it was given to Philip de Albini.

A

Prince

## HUNDRED OF

Prince Edward possessed the lordship of North Greenhoe and Wighton in the 34th of that reign, but they were given to Jeffrey de Lysignan, the king's half brother, seven years afterwards in lieu of lands he held in Ireland; whose son, Jeffrey, dying towards the end of Edward I. left Drogo de Merlaw his nephew and heir.

The 11th of Edward II. Drogo died, and left two daughters and co-heirs; Joan, married to Ralph, earl of Ewe and Guyfnes in France, and Margaret, a minor. His son, Robert, earl of Ewe, and constable of France, held this paramount lordship; but taking part with Philip de Valois, king in France, was taken prisoner in the 19th of Edward III. at Caen in Normandy; and though he paid a ransom of eighty thousand florins, was deprived of all his lands in England. The victorious Edward gave those lands to his no less successful consort Philippa, at whose death they were granted to sir Robert Knowls.

In the 46th of this reign, John of Gaunt held them, with the manor of Fakenham, and so became a part of the dutchy of Lancaster, lodged in the crown.

This hundred is said to have taken its name from a hill, or hills; *hoe* signifying in the Saxon *hill*: Green-hoe, or Green-hill; and North is added, to distinguish it from South Greenhoe.

There are many small hills in Norfolk called *Hoe*, but we do not find more than one so called in this hundred; and as it is in the farm of Honcle-crondale, where Parkins says the hundred-court was formerly held, it is very probable that the court was held on the same spot that gave name to the hundred.

dred. The court of the dutchy of Lancaster is now held at Wighton.

North Greenhoe is about eight miles from east to west, and seven north and south; is bounded by the British ocean on the north, by the hundred of Brothercross on the west; has Gallow on the south, and Holt on the east: comprehends sixteen parishes, all of which, except Cockthorpe and Field-Dalling, are in the deanry of Walsingham, and archdeaconry of Norfolk.

The soil in general is light, but there are rich grounds in the vale, through which the river runs from Snoring to Stifkey, and which let from twenty to thirty shillings per acre, and upwards. Marl is found in most places; and no part of Norfolk abounds more with hares, partridges, pheasants, and the other species of fleet and feathered game common to this country.

The face of the country is beautifully diversified, which cannot be seen from any place to more advantage than Great Snoring church. The prospect to the north terminating with the ocean, is a fine relief to the landscape.

The number of votes polled\* by freeholders resident in this hundred at the great contested election for knight of the shire, at Norwich, May 23, 1768, between sir Armine Wodehouse, bart. Thomas de Grey, esq. sir Edward Astley, bart. and Wenman Coke, esq.

## HUNDRED OF

		W.	G.	A.	C.
Barney	-	0	0	6	6
Binham	-	2	3	1	0
Dawling, Field	-	1	2	10	0
Hindringham	-	2	7	16	7
Holkham	-	1	1	6	6
Houghton in the Hole	-	0	0	1	1
Quarles	-	0	0	1	1
Snoring, Great	-	3	4	5	0
Stifkey	-	3	3	0	0
Thursford	-	0	1	10	9
Walsingham, Great	-	1	1	8	6
Walsingham, Little	-	7	6	28	23
Warham	-	8	8	0	0
Wells	-	21	31	20	32
Wighton	-	4	5	8	9
Total		53	72	120	109

Seats and principal Houses in NORTH GREENHOLM  
Hundred.

Holkham, Thomas William Coke, esq. M. P.  
Stifkey, Rev. Arthur Branthwayte.  
Thursford, George Chad, esq.  
Walsingham, Henry Lee-Warner, esq.  
Warham, sir John Turner, bart.

BERNEY, or BARNEY, in Doomsday-book is called Berlei, from Bur or Ber, a hill by the water. † King

† Vide Parkin, who seems to have had no other criterion for his opinion as an etymologist than the elements of earth and water. Hills and rivers must have been very plenty in Norfolk before the Conquest, since the antients gave such Names only to places as best suited their situation on either.

## NORTH GREENHOE. 5

King William I. gave it to Peter lord Valoins: at the survey, William held it under this lord Peter, who was probably ancestor of the family of de Berney, now baronets.

**BINHAM PRIORY MANOR.** Roger de Valoins, son of lord Peter, confirmed the grant of his kinsman, Walter de Valoins, before he was shorn a monk; of his lordship here, with land at Thursford, with the consent of Rohais his wife, to this priory, by laying on the altar a knife.

Several gifts of land were confirmed to this priory manor.

On the dissolution of the priory this lordship was granted, November 15, in the 33d of Henry VIII. to Thomas Paston, esq. Edward Paston was lord in 1572; and Mary Paston, widow of Thomas Paston, esq. son and heir of Edward Paston of Appleton, and Winter Berningham, held it in jointure in 1625: she was daughter of sir George Brown, of Shelford in Berkshire, and re-married sir Henry Compton, of Sussex, knight of the Bath.

Afterwards it was sold to the Astleys, and sir Jacob Astley, bart. lord and patron, presented to the vicarage in 1660, and his descendant, sir Edward Astley, bart. member of parliament for the county, is the present lord and patron.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and was a rectory granted by Edward III. to the priory of Binham.

The church is a single pile, and has a square tower, with three bells; it is covered with lead, and the chancel is tiled.

In the church is a gravestone:—*Orate p. a'i'a.  
Hen. Blower, als. Barker de Barney.*

In the chancel:—*Orate p. a'i'a. Tho. Lound, nup.  
vicar. huj. ecclie.*

The Rev. Thomas Meux was presented to this  
vicarage by sir Edward Astley, of Melton-Constable,  
**1777.**

**BINHAM** was granted to Peter lord Valoins, the  
Conqueror's nephew, at the survey.

Peter, the lord, and Albreda his wife, founded  
here, with the consent of the Conqueror, a priory of  
Benedictine Monks, dedicated to St. Mary, as a cell  
to the abbey of St. Alban's, but to be subject only,  
as the priory of Lewes was, to that of St. Peter of  
Clugni, in France, and paying only to St. Alban's  
a mark of silver annually; but not finished till the  
beginning of the reign of Henry I.

The founder endowed it with the lordship of this  
town, and other considerable grants of land, &c.  
and Roger, his son, confirmed what his father had  
given, and was himself a considerable benefactor, as  
were Peter and Robert de Valoins, who were buried  
here.

Henry I. gave them a charter for a fair, for four  
days, beginning on the vigil of St. Mary, and a weekly  
market on Wednesdays. And in the 2d of king  
John, a fine was levied, wherein William de Chaen,  
or Ken, lord of North Greenhoe hundred and Wigh-  
ton, grants to the prior, certain customs due to him  
as lord, and the prior grants that the men of Wigh-  
ton should be free from toll in Binham market.

In

## NORTH GREENHOE, 7

In the said reign, Robert lord Fitzwalter claimed the patronage of the priory, and besieged it, in order to reinstate Thomas the prior, deposed by the prior of St. Alban's, and the king sends forces to defend it. Pope Innocent, in 1250, confirmed by bull the grant of the church of Westley, in Cambridgeshire, to them; and Reginald de Bacon, in the 46th of Henry III. gave a moiety of Letheringset church, near Holt; and in the 14th of Edward II. there were resident, as is said, a prior and thirteen monks.

King Henry VIII. in his 33d year, granted to Thomas Paston, esq. the scite of this priory, with the manor and rectory, lands in Walsingham, Wells, Gunthorpe, Barney, Thursford, &c.

Thomas was the fifth son of sir William Paston, of Paston, afterwards a knight, and father of sir Edward, who died lord in 1630: his descendant, Edward Paston, esq. lord of this manor, and of Barningham, &c. married Mary daughter and co-heir of John Clerk, gent. of Bale in Norfolk, by whom he had —— Paston, esq. who sold this lordship and that of Barningham, in or about the year 1756, to Mr. William Russell, a whale-bone merchant of King's street, Cheapside, London.

Mr. Samuel Buck published a print of the ruins of this priory, and its church, dedicated to the Holy Cross, in 1738; and as there is yet no material alteration since that time, a copy from the same print, equally well executed, is hereunto annexed.

The remains of this religious fabrick are very extensive and beautiful, affording one of the surest testimonies of the zeal and purity of the times.

## 8 HUNDRED OF

The west front of the building, now in use as the parish church, is extremely well designed and executed: the situation on the declivity to a fine stream, over which has been a bridge to the north, is remarkably well chosen, and the whole wears a solemn, august appearance. It seems to have been built with a cross isle to the east end, and a bell-tower to the west; encompassed with a wall, or lodgments: round the area of the field, which contains ten or twelve acres, is a wall, excepting to the river, with a gate-house at the principal entrance from the west.

The Rev. Mr. Samuel Hemington was presented to this vicarage by king George II. in 1750.

**COCKTHORPE.** In the grand survey it is called Thorpe, but to distinguish it from other towns in Norfolk of that name, gained the additional name of Coke or Cocke, setting forth its scite to be near some river or water, as Cockley-Clay, Cokeford, &c.\*

Part of this town on the conquest was held by William Beaufoe, bishop of Thetford, in right of that fee, and was possessed by bishop Almar, in the time of king Edward, belonging to his manor of Langham. Another part, consisting of one hundred acres of land, &c. was invaded, or seized on by bishop Beaufoe.

In the reign of Henry III. Thomas Bacon was found to hold a quarter of a fee of Hugh lord Bardolf, Hugh of the bishop of Norwich, and the bishop of the king *in capite*; and Roger son of Thomas Bacon was lord, and presented to the church of Cockthorpe in the fourteenth century.

\* Parkin.

Afterwards it came to sir Oliver Calthorpe, by the marriage of Isabel, daughter of sir Robert, and sister and co-heir of Bartholomew Bacon, of Erwarton in Suffolk. The said Isabel, dying in the 12th year of Henry IV. gave by will this lordship, with that of Snitterly or Blakeney, to her second son, Richard Calthorpe, esq. he married Margaret, daughter of William, and sister and heir of John Irmington, rector of Stifkey St. John, who was buried before the Holy Cross in the church of Cockthorpe, as was also his wife, who survived him ten years.

John Calthorpe, esq. was their son and heir, and married Alice daughter of John Astley, esq. of Melton-Constable in Norfolk. He died in 1503, and was buried in the middle of the chancel of the monastery church of the Carmes at Blakeney, of which he was the principal founder. Alice his wife, survived him and was buried by him, by whom he had Christopher, who was also lord of Starston, in right of Alianore his wife, one of the daughters and heirs of Robert Bernard, esq. and Anna his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Pygott, gent. He died in 1547, and was buried in the church of Cockthorpe.

James Calthorpe, esq. his son, married Elizabeth daughter of Robert Garnish, of Kenton in Suffolk, esq. and brought to this family Fishly manor, in Norfolk, &c.

Christopher, his son and heir, was admitted a student in Lincoln's Inn. Joan his wife survived him, and re-married sir Jerome Bowes, of London.

James Calthorpe, esq. her son and heir, was a knight, high sheriff of Norfolk in the 18th of king James; he married Barbara daughter of Francis Bacon, of Hesett in Suffolk, esq. and died June 15, in the 12th of king James. Barbara his wife survived him, and they were both buried and had a monument in the church of Cockthorpe.

Christopher Calthorpe, esq. was his son and heir, who married about the 44th of Elizabeth, Maud daughter and co-heir of John Thurston, of Broome in Norfolk, esq. and died March 14, in the 23d of James I.

On the 16th of February, in the 15th of Charles I. James Calthorpe, son and heir of Christopher Calthorpe, deceased, had livery of Blakeney manor, called Holywell's Hall, and the advowson of the church, with the chapel of Glanford annexed, &c.

This James sold to Henry Calthorpe, of Ampton in Suffolk, esq. this lordship. Sir Henry was his uncle, and an eminent lawyer, solicitor general to queen Henrietta Maria, and of her council, recorder of London, &c.

Sir Henry was found to die seised of this manor, those of Aldby, Blakeney, Wiveton, Acle, &c. in Norfolk, and that of Ampton in Suffolk, on the first of August, 1637, leaving by Dorothy, daughter and co-heir of Edward Humfrey, gent. James his son and heir, aged eleven years, who married the daughter of — Reynolds, sister of sir John Reynolds, of Hampshire.

This James Calthorpe is said to have been knighted by Oliver Cromwell: he had three sons, James, Christopher,

Christopher, and Reynolds. James Calthorpe, esq. was lord in 1698.

In Cockthorpe-hall were these arms, Calthorpe impaling Bacon of Hefset, argent on a fess ingrailed, between three escutcheons, gules, as many mullets, or.—Calthorpe, quartering Bacon, and Bernard, argent, two greyhounds indorsed, sable, collared, or.—Pigot, argent, three mullets, in bend, between two bendlets, gules; and Rookwood, argent, three chess rooks, sable, and ermine, on a fess sable, three croffes pattee, argent: crest, a boar's head, azure.

In the reign of Henry III. Peter de Ringstede was also found to hold the fourth part of a fee of the lord Bardolph; after which it came to John Calthorpe, esq. and his heirs, and so is united with the other part.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and the Rev. Mr. Henry Calthorpe was presented to this rectory and Blakeney by James Calthorpe, esq. of Ampton, near Bury St. Edmund's, 1743.

DALLING, or FIELD-DAWLING, to distinguish it from Wood-Dawling, in the hundred of Eynsford; called Dalinga in the grand survey, from its scite in a watry vale, or dale.\* At the survey it was held by the Conqueror, and was a beruite to the lordship of Holt.

Robert de Verli had also a lordship at the survey.

The king's manor abovementioned was granted from the crown to the earls Warren, of whom it was held by the family of de Bacon.

B 4

Hardwin

\* Parkin.

Hardwin Bacon presented Richard de Saxlingham to the rectory of this church, about the reign of Henry II. and granted two parts of the tithe of his demeans to the priory of Castleacre.

The manor of Verli, of which Ralph (probably earl of Norfolk, who rebelled against the Conqueror) was deprived, was held of the family of de Dalling.

Roger de Woolterton presented to the church, as lord, in 1348; as did Simon Babingley in 1369, William Walsham in 1384, and William in the Fen in the said year: about the end of this year William Walsham, and others, aliened this rectory to the college of St. Mary in the Fields, at Norwich; and Henry, then bishop, appropriated it on March 11, reserving to himself a pension of 40s. and of 5s. 6d. to the prior and convent of Norwich, per ann. and on this a vicarage was settled.

In the 3d of Henry VI. the lord Bardolph held it of the earl Warren, and in the 5th of Henry VI. Thomas Beaufort, duke of Exeter, was found to die seised of it, and John Rokewode held it of him.

William Sutton conveyed it by fine, in the 2d of Henry VII. to John Wyndham, esq. a moiety of Field-Dawling manor; and in the 23d of that king the manor of Gibbs, in this town, was conveyed to him.

William Heydon, esq. was lord in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and sir Christopher Heydon died lord of Field-Dawling, Woolterton, and Gibbs manors, in 1579.

After

After this Nicolas Styleman, esq. held it, and so came to the Harbords, of Gunton, and sir Harbord Harbord, bart. is the present lord.

John Wilby possessed a manor here, in the 3d of Henry IV. it was then in the king's hand on account of the minority of the duke of Britaigne. Edmund earl of Richmond held it *in capite*, and died seised of it in the 35th of Henry VI.

**MOUNTGRACE PRIORY.** Maud de Harscove, in the reign of king Henry II. gave to the abbey of Savigny in Normandy, a manor in this town, whereupon there came over some Cistercian Monks of that place, of which this is sometimes mentioned as a cell, or priory of itself, and sometimes as parcel of Long Benington priory in Lincolnshire. Upon the dissolution of alien priories, it was given first to Epworth, then to the Spittle on the Street, Lincolnshire; after that to the Carthusians near Coventry, by king Richard II. and afterwards to the priory of Mountgrace, in Yorkshire, and as parcel of this last priory was granted, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, to Martin Hastings and James Bourne.

James Bourne died November 20, in the 12th of Elizabeth, seised of this lordship, and of the rectory, and advowson of the vicarage, leaving it to his nephew James Bourne.

In the 16th of Elizabeth, Martin Hastings, by licence, alienated his right to Charles Stutvyle; and it was afterwards conveyed to William Heydon, esq. and so united to the lordships above.

The church, which consists of two isles, a chancel, and has three bells, is dedicated to St. Andrew, was

was a rectory in the 4th of Richard II. and is now a vicarage.

On a grave-stone in the south isle, with a brass plate:

*Hic jacet Joh. Nicholas et Margareta uxor ejus qui dederunt crucem argenteam huic eccles. qui quid. Joh. ob. 22, Januar. 1485.*

The Rev. Mr. Repps Browne, M. A. was presented to this vicarage by Alice Winn, a minor, 1763.

EGMERE. The principal lordship of Edgamer, as it is wrote in the book of Doomsday, was in the fee of Thetford, and held by Ailmer bishop of Elmham, in the time of the Confessor. Morel held it of William Beaufoe, bishop, at the survey; and it seems to take its name as being seated near some mere, or moor.\*

In the reign of Henry III. Agnes de Mortimer, William de Shipdham, and Godwin de Thornham, held lands here belonging to the fee of Norwich.

John Leche, in the 20th of Edward III. was found to hold the half fee which William de Shipdham formerly held: in the 27th of the said king, John de Woolterton, rector of Harpley, conveyed it to John de Egmere, usher of the Exchequer, and his heirs.

In

\* Vide Parkin.—Mere is a low swampy meadow, or lake: Egmere stands on high ground, and probably was called Edge-moor, as Edgefield near Holt, on an eminence.

In 1418 William Winter, esq. presented to this church: soon after it seems to have been in the hands of certain trustees, who had licence on March 3, in the 3d year of Henry VI. to alien this manor of Egmere, with the patronage of the church, to the prior and convent of Walsingham.

On the dissolution of the said priory it came to the crown, and king Henry VIII. on the 22d of March, in his 30th year, grants it to James Bulleyne, in exchange for the manors of Heverreal, and Kemfing in Kent. After this it came to sir Thomas Gresham knt. whose widow, lady Ann, sold it to sir Nicholas Bacon, lord keeper, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and his descendant, the late sir Edmund Bacon, bart. died possessed of it: his daughter, Mrs. Mary Bacon, of Ryborough, is the present lady of the manor, and patron.

The church, of which nothing is left but the tower, is a rectory, and the inhabitants go to the church of Waterden, and are there buried, &c. Sir Nicholas Bacon is said to have profaned it, and turned it into a barn.

The Rev. Mr. Charles Mordaunt, rector of Little Massingham, was presented to this rectory by Mrs. Mary Bacon, 1761.

HINDRINGHAM. The capital lordship of this town belonged to the bishop of Elmham, in king Edward's reign. William Beaufoe, bishop of Thetford, was lord of it at the survey.

DEAN and CHAPTER of NORWICH'S MANOR.  
Herbert bishop of Norwich, on his founding the  
priory

priory of Norwich gave this lordship to it, and was held by the prior and convent of Norwich.

This lordship is now in the dean and chapter of Norwich.

**NOWERS'S MANOR.** In the reign of king John, William de Nowers, &c. held lands in this manor.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Thomas de Estle, or Astley, held of the lord Bardolph, and he of the bishop, late Nowers; and Thomas Astley, esq. son and heir, settled this manor in the 7th of Henry VII. as a jointure on Elizabeth daughter of William Clipsby, of Oby. In the 30th of Henry VIII. Thomas Astley, and John, his son and heir, sold it to sir Roger Townshend, of Rainham; and George Townshend, esq. with Alice his wife, passed it in queen Mary's reign to Thomas Townshend, esq. From the Townshends it was conveyed about 1570, to Martin Hastings, who sold it to Giles Mabbs, or Nabbs, gent. he left two daughters and co-heirs, Mary married to Riches Brown, esq. of Fulmondition, and —, married to James Ward. gent. of Hindringham.

**WILBY'S MANOR.** Another part of this great episcopal lordship was in the hands of the antient family of de Burgolion; and Ralph son of John de Rudham, held of Robert Burgolion, in the time of Henry III.

John de Wilby and Joan Hervey, held of Ralph de Astley, Edward II.

In the 5th of Henry VI. Thomas Beaufort, duke of Exeter, died seised (as lord of Wormegay, the Bardolphs

## NORTH GREENHOE. 17

Bardolphs estate) of lands here, &c. and in the 22d of Henry VIII. this lordship of Wilby was possessed by John Hall, of Halsted in Lincolnshire.

**PERNOW HALL.** This was also a lordship belonging to the bishop's fee, and in the reign of Edward III. was possessed by John de Egmore, and is said to be held of the manor of Nowers, in this town.

In the 13th of Henry VI. Richard Chappe grants to Henry Beaufort, cardinal and bishop of Winchester, William de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, sir Thomas Kerdeston, sir Thomas Tuddenham, William Billingford, esq. &c. his manor of Pernow-Hall, in Hindringham, to them and their heirs for ever. After this it came to the Wilbys, who held it of the Astleys, lords of the manor of Nowers. Richard Wilby passed it in the 32d of Henry VIII. to Edmund Framingham.

George Davy, of Gunthorpe, died seised of it September 4, in the last year of Philip and Mary. Richard Godfrey, esq. about the 20th of Elizabeth, purchased this manor of Christopher Davy.

**COLDHAM HALL.** William Banyard had this hall conveyed to him, in the 16th of Edward IV. by Thomas Gloys.

In the 27th of Henry VIII. John Wotton, and William Fermor, esq. held of the bishop. After this it was possessed by Francis Bedingfield, who sold it in the 34th of Elizabeth to Richard Godfrey, esq. abovementioned, and —— Godfrey, esq. a master in chancery, sold it to Isaac Le-Heup, esq. Michael

Michael Le-Heup, esq. of Bury St. Edmund's, is the present lord.

Besides the abovementioned lordships, the king had a small fee at the survey, in this town; as had also, Drogo de Beuraria, or Drew de Beveres, a noble Fleming, who attended the Conqueror on the invasion, and made by him Lord of Holderness, in Yorkshire, with a grant of these manors in Norfolk : Basingham and Barningham, in North Erpingham hundred ; Saxlingham, in Henstead hundred ; Burgh and Erpingham, in South Erpingham hundred ; with this of Hindringham.

The church, which is a lofty structure, with five bells, was antiently a rectory, dedicated to St. Martin. From the top of the church tower, there is one of the most beautiful and extensive prospects to be found in the county of Norfolk.

In the chancel window, an orate for sir Robert Walkfare, knt. with his arms, and one for Thomas Swellington, with his arms ; as were also the arms of the lords Bardolph and Morley.

The Rev. Mr. Lancaster Framingham was presented to this vicarage, by the dean and chapter of Norwich, 1768.

**HOLKHAM.** The principal lordship of this town was after the conquest granted to Tovi, one of the Conqueror's attendants. Tovi had, besides this manor, the grant of six lordships in this county.

On the death of Tovi it came as an escheat to the crown, and was granted by William II. to his great favourite, William de Albini, his butler, (*Pincerna*

*terna Regis*) ancestor of the earls of Arundel, lord of Wymondham, Rising-Castle, and Buckenham, who enfeoffed Hubert de Monchensi thereof, ancestor of the lords de Monchensi. Sir Warin de Monchensi had a charter of free warren in the reign of Henry III. and Thomas de Holkham released to him in 1227, common of pasture, &c.

William lord Monchensi, his son and heir, left a daughter and sole heir, Dionysia, who brought it by marriage in 1296, to sir Hugh de Vere, a younger son of Robert earl of Oxford, being held of the lord Tateshale, who married one of the heiresses of the earl of Arundel, and having no issue, this lordship came to Adomare de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, and Joan his wife, sister of William lord Monchensi, father of the aforesaid Dionysia.

On the death of Adomare de Valentia, in the 17th of Edward II. and a division of his inheritance, it was assigned to David de Strathbolgi, in right of Joan his wife, daughter of John Comyn, lord of Badenough, in Inverness-shire, by Joan his wife, one of the sisters and co-heirs of the said Adomare, where it remained till his descendant, David earl of Athol, on his death, in the 49th of Edward III. left it to his two daughters and co-heirs, (Elizabeth and Philippa) by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of the lord Ferrers, of Groveby.

Elizabeth, the eldest, married first sir Thomas Percy, and secondly sir John Scrope; being a widow, in 1388 conveyed it to sir John Halsham, of Kent, and Philippa his wife, her sister.

In 1395 John Halsham, esq. son and heir of Philippa was lord in the 3d of Henry V. Sir Hugh

de Halsham died lord in the 20th of Henry VI. when Joan daughter and heir of Richard Halsham, his brother, wife of John Lewkenor, esq. of Goring in Sussex, was his heir. John Lewkenor, esq. in the 4th of Edward IV. settled it by fine on Thomas Randolph, with the manor of West Lexham.

After this it was in the family of Boleyn, of Blickling. Sir William Boleyn, second son of sir Jeffrey Boleyn, lord mayor of London, died possessed of it in 1505.

Thomas Gresham, esq. purchased it of sir James Boleyn, by fine, in the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary. By an inquisition taken May 9, in the 39th of Elizabeth, the lady Ann Gresham, widow of sir Thomas, was found to have held the manor of Holkham and Burgh-hall, and Wm. Read, esq. was her son and heir, by her first husband, Wm. Read, esq.

In the 21st of James I. the lady Mary Read, widow of sir William Read, possessed it: which said William Read had one daughter and heir, named Ann, who married to her first husband sir Michael Stanhope, knt. by whom she had three daughters, Elizabeth, Jane, and Bridget. After the death of Stanhope, and before her father died, she married to her second husband sir Edward Spencer, knt. and in his name in right of his wife, a court was held for Borough-hall manor the beginning of the reign of Charles I.

After the death of the said lady Ann Spencer, her three daughters by sir Michael Stanhope were in possession of Borough-hall manor, &c. as co-heirs of sir William Read their grandfather, and were then married to lord Berkley, sir William Withipol, of Ipswich,

Ipswich, knt. and the earl of Desmonde. And by deeds dated the 10th and 23d of Charles I. lord Berkley and Elizabeth his wife, sir William Withipol and Jane his wife, the earl of Desmonde and Bridget his wife, sold and conveyed the manor of Borough-hall, about three hundred and sixty acres of land and meadows, three hundred and fifty acres of salt marshes\*, and two fold-courses, the one called Caldoe or Ashyard fold-course, the other the Marsh or Borough-hall fold-course, with the appurtenances, to John Coke, esq. of Holkham, from whom the same descended to the earl of Leicesler.

It appears from court rolls, &c. that the successive lords of Borough-hall manor, since the year 1505, were

Sir James Boleyn.

Sir Thomas Gresham.

Lady Gresham, his widow.

Sir William Read, her son by a first husband.

Lady Mary Read, widow of sir William.

Sir Edward Spencer, in right of his wife, Ann daughter of sir William Read.

Elizabeth lady Berkley, Jane lady Withipol, and Bridget countess of Desmonde, grand-daughters of sir William Read, by his daughter Ann's first husband, sir Michael Stanhope.

John Coke, who married Merial daughter of Anthony Wheatley: which Anthony died the 24th of August, the 42d of Elizabeth.—Perkins errs in saying,

\* These marshes were imbanked and inclosed from the sea by the said John Coke, and now called the Old, or Borough Marshes, in Holkham.

ing, it was purchased by William Wheatly, esq. prothonotary of the Common Pleas, who was also lord of Hill-hall in this town, and left it to Anthony his son and heir, who by Ann his wife, daughter of William Armiger, esq. of North Creak, had three daughters and co-heirs; Muriel, the eldest, brought it by marriage to John Coke, esq. fourth son of the famous sir Edward Coke, lord chief justice of England.

William de Ken, lord of Wighton, in the reign of Richard I. and king John, possessed lands in Holkham; and his son William in that of Henry III. who forfeited on his rebellion: they were granted by that king to Philip de Albini, as the lands of the Normans; but in the 32d of the said king, was conferred on William de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, the king's half brother, and it became united to the lordship abovementioned, and came to John Coke, esq.

Henry III. granted a weekly market, on Mondays, and a fair on the feast of the decollation of St. John Baptist: here was also a great fish-market.

In 1533, William Wootton, and John Wootton, esq. conveyed NEALS, alias LUCAS manor, to Mr. William Pepys, and Thomas Pepys, gent. died seised of in 1569, and orders it by his will to be sold.

After the death of Thomas Pepys the said manor of Neals, alias Lucas, was possessed by his daughter Thomasine, who married Richard Seafoyl; after whose death the said Thomasine, widow of Richard Seafoyl, sold the said manor and estate of Neals, alias Lucas, to Richard Mansur, who had possession many years in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and

and long and vexatious law suits with lady Gresham, about rights of sheep-walks in Holkham, not ended till after both of them were dead. William Armiger, of North Creak, esq. married Catherine sister and heir of the said Richard Mansuer.

William Armiger, esq. and Catherine his wife, by deed dated the 5th of October, 1610, the 7th of James I. sold and conveyed the manor of Holkham, otherwife Neals, alias Lucas, in Holkham, with the appurtenances; \*the rectory of Holkham and parsonage house, with the tithes of corn and hay, and all wainscot, ceilings, windows, glass-doors, locks, shelves, benches, tables, fixed coppers and leads; with all field-lands, enclosures and other lands, of which three acres was planted with saffron; also the patronage of the vicarage of Holkham, to sir Edward Coke, knt. then lord chief justice of the Common Pleas.

A fine was levied the 7th of James I. .

By the same deed was assignd and conveyed to the said sir Edward Coke, the lease and manor of Petersont granted by Edmund Bishop of Norwich to queen Elizabeth for eighty years, with the appurte-

C 3

nances

\* The rectory of Holkham was appropriate to the abbey of West Dereham, which abbey was given to the king, by statutes the 27th and 31st of Henry VIII. The said rectory was granted by letters patent of Henry VIII. to James Boleyn, who sold the same to Pepys, and with Neals, alias Lucas, came to Armiger as abovementioned, who sold and conveyed the same to sir Edward Coke as aforesaid,

+ Peterson leasold was in possession of — Griggs, from whom Richard Mansuer purchased it, and from him came to Armiger as abovementioned.

nances in Peterson, Holkham, Basham, Creak, Burnham, and Burnham-Thorpe,

From the said sir Edward Coke all the above premisses came to his son, John Coke, of Holkham, and from him descended to the Earl of Leicester.

In the 28th of Henry VI. the prior of Walsingham had a grant of the lands in Peterson, and priory; and so continued till the dissolution, when they came to the crown.

Edward VI. in 1549, granted Peterson priory manor, and lands in this town, &c. to the fee of Norwich, where it remains at this time.

The great antiquary and historian, Camden, derives this family of Coke, from William Coke, of Didlington in South Greenhoe hundred, Norfolk, mentioned in a deed in 1206, who held also in the said year, the lordship of South-bergh in Mitford hundred.

William had Jeffrey his son, residing at Didlington in the 36th year of Henry III. who married Margaret daughter and co-heir of Alan de Attlebridge, and left Thomas Coke, of Didlington, living in the 50th of that king, and father of Thomas, of the said town, living in the 44th of Edward I. who had John Coke, of Didlington, in the 9th of Edward II.

In Collin's History of the Peerage it is also said, that John Coke, who was lord of Didlington in the 9th of Edward II. and father of sir Thomas Coke, who served in the wars of France, was lord of Didlington and Foulden, created a knight banneret,

neret, and in the 22d of Edward II. had a grant of one hundred pounds per annum: his son Thomas dying s. p. his inheritance descended to John Coke, who lived at Whitwell, 1362, brother of sir Thomas, who had a son, John Coke, esq. of Croftwick and East Ruston, and he a son, Robert Coke, esq. of East Ruston, who married Agnes, daughter and heir of Roger Crispin, esq. of Happisburgh.

Their son John left Thomas Coke, esq. who married Alice, sister and co-heir of Thomas Folcard, lord of Sparham-hall, and had two sons:

1. John, who died young.
2. Robert Coke, esq. of Sparham, married to Ann, daughter of Thomas Wodehouse, of Waxham in the hundred of Happing.

Robert, the survivor, was a fellow of Lincoln's inn, and the first of the family who lived at Mileham: his only brother, Thomas, was lord of Gammon's manor in Whitwell. Robert died in London, 1561, and by Winifred, daughter of Mr. William Knightley of Norwich, left an only son and heir, sir Edward Coke, that bright luminary of the law, who was born at Mileham. He was lord chief justice of England, &c. and died at Tittleshall; to which place in this history the reader is referred.

Sir Edward married first Bridget daughter of John Paston, esq. by whom he had six sons and three daughters, viz.

1. Edward, who died an infant.
2. Sir Robert, married to Theophila daughter of lord Berkley, and died 1653 without issue.

3. Arthur, married to Elizabeth daughter and sole heir of sir George Waldegrave, of Higham in Suffolk, and died without issue, 1629.

4. John, who by his marriage with Muriel daughter of Anthony Wheatley, esq. succeeded to the Holkham estate, and had six sons and nine daughters.

5. Henry, married to Margaret daughter and heir of sir Richard Lovelace, of Kingsdown in Kent.

6. Clement, married to Sarah daughter and co-heir of Alexander Reddish, esq. of Reddish in Lancashire. This Clement lived at Longford in Derbyshire, and had a son who was created baronet by Charles I. for his loyal attachment to that unfortunate prince.

Sir Edward's three daughters were

1. Elizabeth, who died young.
2. Bridget, married to William Skinner, esq.
3. Ann, married to Ralph Sadler, esq.

By his second lady, Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Cecil, earl of Salisbury, he had

1. Elizabeth, who died unmarried.
2. Frances, married to sir John Villiers, viscount Purbeck, brother of the duke of Buckingham.

John, the fourth son of sir Edward Coke, lived and died at Honington in Suffolk, 1661; and his heirs male dying without issue, the estates in Norfolk, Suffolk, Derby, Cambridge and Lancashire, descended to Richard only son and heir of Henry the fifth son of sir Edward.

Richard

Richard Coke, esq. as above, married Mary daughter of sir John Rouse, bart. of Henham in Suffolk, by whom he had Robert Coke, esq. of Holkham, who married lady Ann Osborne, daughter of the duke of Leeds, and dying left Edward his son and heir, married to Cary daughter of sir John Newton, bart. of Barrow-Court in Gloucestershire. Edward Coke, esq. had three sons, viz. Thomas, Edward and Robert, and two daughters, Cary, married to sir Marmaduke Wyvill, bart. and Ann, married to Philip Roberts, esq. major of the second troop of horse guards, and now living in London.

Thomas, the eldest, married lady Margaret Tufton, third daughter and co-heir of the earl of Thanet, and baroness Clifford in her own right. He was elected knight of the bath, created baron Lovell, of Minster-Lovell in Oxfordshire, and earl of Leicester: he was also joint post-master general of England, and elected fellow of the Royal Society, &c.

Edward, the second son, had the estate of Longford in Derbyshire, and dying s. p. in 1733, his younger brother, Robert, inherited it.

He married lady Jane, daughter of Thomas marquis of Wharton, and sister to Philip late duke of Wharton; and was vice chamberlain to queen Caroline: dying without issue, 1737, the Longford estate came to Wenman Coke Roberts, esq. son of major Roberts and Ann his wife, as abovementioned.

Thomas earl of Leicester had an only son, Edward viscount Coke, a young nobleman of most eminent parts, who represented the county of Norfolk in one parliament: he married lady Mary Campbell,

Campbell, daughter and co-heir of the great John duke of Argyle, and died, 1753, without issue.

On the death of lord Leicester, April 20, 1759, the titles became extinct, but the estates devolved on Wenman Coke, esq. of Longford, member of parliament for the borough of Derby, and in 1774 elected knight of the shire for the county of Norfolk: he married first Hugone daughter of a merchant in London, by whom he had no surviving issue: his next wife was Miss Chamberlain, an heiress, (now his relict) a grand-daughter of the late judge Denton, whose estate in Buckinghamshire she enjoys for life by the judge's settlement: after her decease it descends to her eldest son, Thomas William Coke, esq. as tenant in tail.

Mr. Wenman Coke had by the same lady a younger son, Edward Coke, esq. yet unmarried:— Margaret, married to sir Henry Hunlocke, bart. of Wingerworth in Derbyshire:—Elizabeth, married to James Dutton, esq. eldest brother of Mrs. T. W. Coke, whose younger brothers, one has taken the sir-name of Napier, and the other, Ralph Dutton, esq. are both unmarried.

Mrs. T. W. Coke's three elder sisters are,

1. Married to Samuel Blackwell, esq. member of parliament for Cirencester.
2. To Mr. Masters, near the same borough.
3. To Charles Lambert, esq. member of parliament for Kilbeggan in Ireland.

On Mr. Wenman Coke's decease, April 1775, his eldest son, Thomas William Coke, esq. succeeded, and was also chosen member in parliament for this

this county, in the room of his father, the 8th of May following.

Mr. Coke, the present lord of Holkham, married Jane, the fourth and youngest daughter of James Lenox Dutton, esq. of Sherbourne in Gloucestershire, by whom he has a daughter, Jane Elizabeth, born in 1777.

The family name of Coke is of great antiquity, as we have endeavoured to shew; and has been spell'd Cooke or Cocke; the name given by the antient British (as Parkin says) to a river, as Cocket in Northumberland, Cocker in Cumberland, Cockeford (now Coxford) in Gallow, &c.

"The town takes its name from its scite, lying near to some remarkable hills, Hoe-lig-ham; and as tradition says, was one of the country seats of Anna king of the East Angles; and Withburga, his youngest daughter, who was fainted for her piety, (of whom see in East Dereham) was born and educated here.

"It was antiently a place of consequence, and eminency for trade and shipping. In the 4th year of Edward II. the king sent his writ to this town, Burnham, Snetterley, Blakeney, Lynn and Yarmouth, to provide ships to be sent to Scotland, the king being then at war with the Scots; and this town with that of Burnham-Depdale, was appointed to provide one ship in the reign of Edward III. in order, with others, to transporth the king's army from Dublin in Ireland, to Scotland.

"But what renders this village highly remarkable in this present age, is the noble, stately, sumptuous palace,

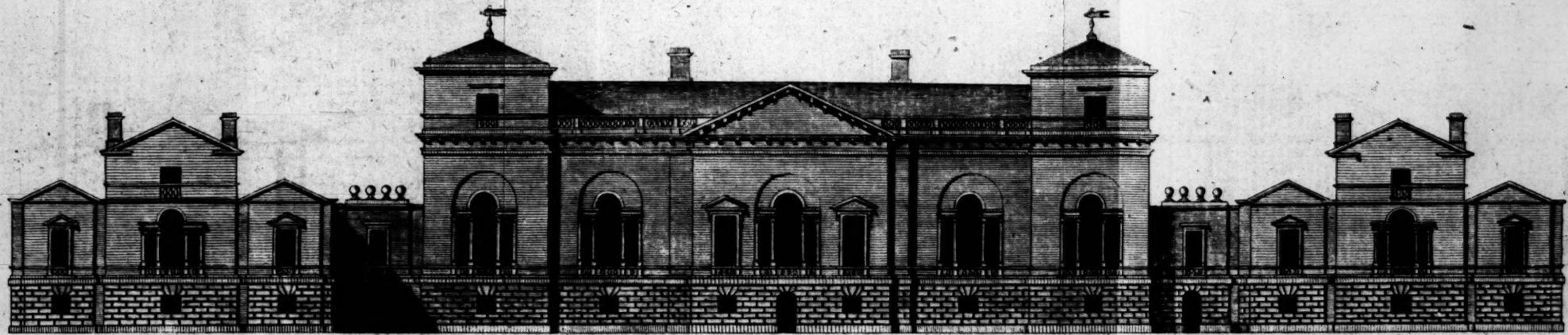
palace, erected by the late right honourable lord of it, which may be justly said to be, in all respects, one of the best houses (if not the best) in all Great Britain ; and may it so remain a splendid monument of his great worth and dignity, to latest posterity.

" The building of Holkham-house was finished by Margaret countess dowager of Leicester, in the year 1764, having expended therein upwards of eleven thousand pounds since lord Leicester's death ; and the furnishing of the house was compleated in the year 1766, at the additional expence of more than three thousand pounds, by her ladyship.

" Influenced by a tender regard to indigent, and widowed age, in the year 1755 her ladyship built and endowed, and in 1763 further endowed, in this parish, an alms-house for the maintenance of three men and three women, to have sixpence a day each, one chaldron of coals each, annually, and to have new cloaths once in two years ; to be elected by the possessor of Holkham-house, out of some parish in which the estates thereto belonging lie : the building and furnishing the six dwellings, and purchasing the rents and estates for the support and maintenance of the whole, cost her ladyship about two thousand three hundred pounds.

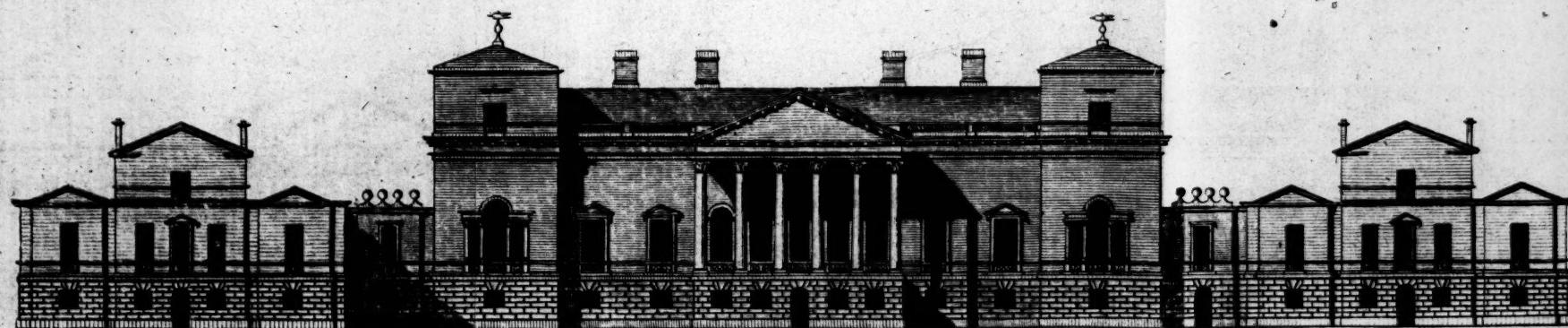
" In the spring, 1767, her ladyship began to repair Holkham church. All the outside walls and stone window frame, were repaired throughout ; the roof made strong, and part of it new leaded ; the inside of the whole stuccoed and cieled ; the floors entirely new paved ; the pews and seats all new, and erected in a regular form ; the pulpit, desks, communion table, and rails thereto, all mahogany ; a marble font, plate for the communion, linen and books

# HOLKHAM HALL.



*North Elevation.*

100 feet



*South Elevation*

100 feet

*The Seat of Thomas William Coke, Esq: M.P.*

Published as the Act directs, Aug<sup>t</sup>. 12<sup>th</sup> 1781 by M. Booth, Norwich.

books for all the services, the old monuments restored, the vestry room fitted up, and all the windows new glazed. The whole was finished at Easter, 1768, at the sole expence of her ladyship, amounting to about one thousand pounds.

"A book of this nature, as a public record, with great propriety endeavours to eternize the memory of those truly great and noble benefactors, to whom works of consummate excellence, and public acts of piety and charity, have deservedly given superior distinction in the age in which they lived."\*

His lordship's arms were per pale; gules and azure, three eaglets display'd, argent, (as granted to sir Edward Coke, the judge, by Robert Cook, clarenceux) crest, on a chapeau, gules, turned up ermine, an ostrich, argent, with an horse-shoe in his beak, azure; supporters, two ostriches, argent, gor ged and collared, with a ducal coronet.

Motto, *Prudens, qui patiens*.—The quarterings of this family see in Tittleshall.

A capital messuage in Holkham staith, with lands in Holkham, and the east marsh foldcourse, was for many generations the possessions of the New-gates.

Robert Newgate had a grant from Charles I. of the salt-marshes in Holkham, with a power to inclose the same, for 150l. paid to the king, to be held of the manor of East Greenwich, by fealty only in free and common socage, in which grant boundaries towards the sea are described.

By

\* Parkin.

By deed dated the 21st of October, 1659, Edmund Newgate sold and conveyed for 3400l. all his messuages, lands, tenements and marshes in Holkham, to John Coke, esq. of Holkham, from whom the same descended to the earl of Leicester.

In the year 1721 and 22, the late earl of Leicester inclosed and embanked from the sea about four hundred acres, part of the said salt-marshes, now called the New Marshes in Holkham.

Afterwards the said earl of Leicester determining to fix the family seat at Holkham, about the years 1725 and 26, after making several purchases of intermixed land and estates, he began to inclose the parish of Holkham; in 1728 built a new farm-house, &c. upon the distant field-lands on the west side the parish, at a place called Longlands. In 1735 he built another new farm-house, upon the old heath on the east side the parish, at a place called Branthill, and inclosed and cultivated the heath-land: thence forward gradually proceeded with inclosing and improving the whole parish, dividing to himself, round about where he intended to build his seat, and inclosed with pales, a park, containing about eight hundred and forty acres of land, and therein made many plantations of woods, laid out lawns, made waters, gardens, &c. with many useful and ornamental buildings therein; and nearly compleated his mansion house begun in 1734, (upon the scite of the old manor house of Hill-hall) before his death, in 1759.

"Holkham-hall, (says an itinerant author) the celebrated house of Thomas William Coke, esq. which can be seen any day of the week, except Sunday, by nobility and foreigners, but on Tuesday only  
by

by other people. It was built by the late earl of Leicester, and cannot be viewed with too much attention. The center part of this extensive villa contains the principal or grand apartment, situated in the middle of four considerable wings, or pavilions, that are joined to it by galleries, or rectilinear corridors. Under the basement story are the cellars. Each wing has its respective destination; one is allotted to the uses of the kitchen, and all its offices, a servants hall, and some lodging rooms: another is the chapel wing; and therein are the dairy, wash-house, laundry, and some lodging rooms. At opposite angles on the western quarter, are situated the two other wings or pavilions. One of these contains a complete family apartment. The other pavilion is wholly calculated to accommodate company, and called the strangers wing.

" The house may be said to consist of five quadrangles, the center and the four wings; not that they are squares, but we use the term to give a general idea. Each of the two fronts thereof present a center and two wings. That to the south, and the grand approach, is as beautiful, light, airy, and elegant a building as can be viewed. The portico is in a fine taste, and the Corinthian pillars beautifully proportioned. This central front, in every respect that can be named, appears all lightness, elegance, and proportion: but when you advance near, you find no entrance to the house; there are no stairs up to the portico; and this circumstance, after so fine an approach, and so long seeing the portico, and expecting it to be the entrance, becomes a disappointment, and a fault in the building.

" We have spoken hitherto of the central front alone. The whole, including the two wings, we cannot think so perfect; for there appears a great want

want of unity. The several parts are not so nicely connected as to form one whole. The center must be seen distinct, each wing the same; and likewise the small parts which join the center to the wings. These are all distinct parts, though joined together; nor is there any similitude of taste between the center and the wings; all the pieces of this front are light and elegant to a great degree: but when considered as the connected parts of one whole, the want of unity is striking. The center is uniform, and if we may be allowed the expression, elegantly magnificent. No building can deserve these epithets more than this; but they cannot be applied to the whole front, because the parts are not of an uniform taste, and the wings are at best but light and elegant; they have nothing magnificent in them, as to the joining pieces they are *pretty*. The north front consists of one row of Venetian windows, over another of common sashes in the rustics. This front is not so pleasing as the south one, but it is by far more of a piece with the wings, &c.

" After venturing these criticisms upon the fronts of Holkham, common candour obliges us to acknowledge, that the inside of the house, in point of contrivance, is far preferable to any other we have ever seen; so admirably adapted to the English way of living, and so ready to be applied to the grand, or the comfortable stile of life, that convenience seems to have had the first place in lord Leicester's mind, when he adopted the present plan.

" You enter what they call the great hall, but what is in reality a passage. It is called a cube of forty-eight feet; but eighteen very large and magnificent Ionic pillars, having their pedestals rested on a marble passage round it, and eight or ten feet high from

from the ground, the area at bottom is but an oblong passage, walled in with Derbyshire marble, and upon that wall are the pillars, six in a line on each side, and six in front in a semi-circle around a flight of steps up to the saloon door. The passage or gallery, as it may be called, runs around these pillars, and both together take up so much room, that all sort of proportion is lost; to look from it into the area, it appears exactly like a bath. The south-front was one proof, and this hall is another, that the architect's genius was not of the magnificent or sublime stamp; for in both he aimed at greatness: the impression of the front is varied, and consequently weakened by the wings; and the want of proportion in the hall, ruins the vast effect which would otherwise attend the magnificence of such pillars so nobly arranged: but in the elegant, the pleasing, the agreeable, his taste has never failed throughout the whole building. The hall is entirely of Derbyshire marble.

" The saloon is forty-two feet by twenty-seven, a proportion much condemned, but it is by no means displeasing. Some call it a gallery; and perhaps a gallery is infinite preferable to a cube, or to any proportion near a square enormously high. One of the finest rooms in England, is the double cube at Wilton, which is more of a gallery than the saloon at Holkham, and yet no one ever entered it without being struck with the justness of the proportions.

" This saloon is hung with crimson saffoy, the pier-glasses small, on account of the narrowness of the piers, each against a pillar of the portico, but in an elegant taste. The rooms to the left of the saloon are, first, a drawing-room, thirty-three by twenty-two, hung with crimson saffoy; the pier-

glasses very large, and exceedingly elegant ; the agate tables beautiful beyond description. From thence we entered the landscape room, which is a dressing-room to the state bed-chamber ; it is twenty-four by twenty-two, hung with crimson damask. A passage-room leads to the anti-room to the chapel, and then into the state gallery. The walls of Derbyshire marble ; the altar and all the decorations in a very fine taste. Returning to the landscape room, you pass into the state bed-chamber, thirty by twenty-four, which is fitted up in an elegant taste. It is hung with French tapestry, except between the piers, which is by Mr. Saunders of Soho-square ; the colours of the whole exceedingly brilliant. The bed is a cut velvet, upon a white fattin ground, and as it appears in common is a very handsome gilt settee, under a canopy of state : the design of the bed is equal to any thing in England. The chimney-piece remarkably beautiful ; pelicans in white marble. The next apartment is Mrs. Coke's, consisting of a bed-chamber, dressing-room, closet with books, and a smaller one ; the bed-chamber twenty-four by twenty-two, purple damask, French chairs of Chissel-street velvet tapestry ; the chimney-piece a basso relievo of white marble finely polished. The dressing-room, twenty-eight by twenty-four, hung with blue damask. So much for the suite of rooms to the left of the hall and saloon.

" On the other side you enter from the latter, another drawing-room, thirty-three by twenty-two, hung with a crimson flowered velvet. The glasses, tables, and chimney-pieces are well worth your attention. From this room you enter the statue-gallery, which is without exception the most beautiful room we ever beheld ; the dimensions are to the eye proportion itself ; nothing offends the most criticising.

ticising. It consists of a middle part, seventy feet by twenty-two, and at each end an octagon of twenty-two, open to the center by an arch; in one are compartments with books, and in the other statues: those in the principal part of the gallery stand in niches in the wall, along one side of the room, on each side the chimney-piece. Observe in particular the Diana, the figure is extremely fine, and the arms inimitably turned; the Venus in wet drapery is likewise exquisite; nothing can exceed the manner in which the form of the limbs is seen through the cloathing. The flabs are very fine; the ceiling the only plain one in the house, the rest being all gilt fret-work and mosaic.

" The entrance we liave already mentioned from the drawing-room is into one octagon, and out of the other opens the door into the dining-room, a cube of twenty-eight feet, with a large recefs for the side-board, and two chimney-pieces exceedingly elegant; the one a sow and pigs and wolf, the other a bear and bee-hive, finely done in white marble; the nose of the sow was broke off by a too common misapplication of sense, *feeling* instead of *seeing*. Returning into the statue gallery, one octagon leads into the stranger's wing, and the other to the late Earl's apartment: consisting of, 1. The anti-room. 2. His lordship's dressing-room. 3. The library, fifty by twenty-one, and exceedingly elegant. 4. Mrs. Coke's dressing-room. 5. The bed-chamber. 6. A closet with books. The rooms are about twenty-two by twenty. The strangers wing consists of an anti-chamber, dressing-room, bed-chamber, closet with books, bed-chamber, dressing-room, bed-chamber, dressing-room. The fitting up of the house, in all particulars not mentioned, is in the most elegant taste, the Venetian windows beautiful,

ornamented with magnificent pillars, and a profusion of gilding.

" But now, let us come to what of all other circumstances is in Holkham infinitely the most striking, and what renders it so particularly superior to all the great houses in the kingdom, *convenience*. In the first place with the state apartments. From the hall to the saloon, on each side a drawing-room, through one of them to the state dressing-room and bed-chamber; this is perfectly compleat. Through the other drawing-room to the statue gallery, which may be called the rendezvous room, and connects a number of apartments together, in an admirable manner; for one octagon opens into the private wing, and the other into the strangers on one side, and into the dining-room on the other. This dining-room is on one side of the hall, on the other is Mrs. Coke's dressing-room, and through that her bed-chamber and closets. From the recess in the dining-room opens a little door on to the stair-cafe, which leads immediately to the offices; and it should be observed, that in the center of the wings, by the center of the house, by the saloon door, and behind Mrs. Coke's closet, are stairs quite unseen, which communicate with all the rooms, and lead down into the offices. We say *down*; for the hall is the only room seen on the ground floor; you step directly from a coach into it, without any quarry of winding steps to wet a lady to the skin, before she gets under cover. From the hall you rise to the saloon or first floor, and there is no attic. Thus there are four general apartments, which are all distinct from each other, with no reciprocal thoroughfares; the state, Mrs. Coke's, the late earl's, and the strangers wing. These severally open into what may be called common rooms, the hall, statue-gallery, and saloon.

falon, and all immediately communicate with the dining-room. There may be houses larger and more magnificent, but human genius can never contrive any thing more convenient."

The south front (of which we have given a perspective view) is regular and beautiful; and the gilding of the window frames and sashes, done in the summer of 1777, by the present Mr. Coke, gives the whole a magnificent appearance; but we refer our readers to the large folio volume of Plans, Elevations, Sections and Description of Holkham House, published by Mr. Matthew Brettingham, son of the surveyor of the buildings for the late lord Leicester.

In order to give a proper idea of the plantations, park, and other objects which environ this *museum* of taste and elegance, we shall enter Holkham parish by the road leading from Lynn to Wells, where the twelve small clumps of trees surrounding the triumphal arch first catch your attention, and give you warning of an *approach*.

Turning into the gate on the left, the road leads you under the TRIUMPHAL ARCH. This structure is in a beautiful taste, and finished in an elegant manner; it is extremely light, and the white flint rustics have a fine effect.

Crossing the Burnham and Walsingham road, a narrow plantation on each side a broad vista leads from hence to the obelisk, a mile and a half; this plantation ought to be much broader, for you see the light through many parts of it; but it is only a sketch of what the late earl of Leicester designed,

and not meant as compleat. At the bottom of the hill, on which the obelisk stands, are the two porters lodges, small, but very neat structures. Rising with the hill, you approach the obelisk, through a very fine plantation ; and nothing can be attended with a better effect than the vistas opening at once. There are eight : 1. To the south front of the house. 2. Holkham Staith. 3. Town of Wells. 4. Stifkey Hills. 5. The triumphal arch. 6. Thorpe Lodge. 7. Overy Staith. 8. Holkham church.

Vistas are by no means the taste of the present age ; but such a genius as Lord Leicester's, might be allowed to deviate from fashion, in favour of beauty and propriety. Nothing can be more regular than the front of a great house, the approach to it ought therefore to partake of this regularity ; because straight cuts are out of fashion, it would be an absurdity to take a winding course to the house door, for the sake of catching objects aslant, and irregularly : such management is to the full in as false a taste, as regular cuts where the house is out of the question. For instance, those from the temple at Holkham, which, however, command exceedingly beautiful objects : 1. Wells church. 2. Holkham Staith. 3. The lake in the park, which is seen from hence through some spreading trees, in a most picturesque manner ; a planted hill ; the sea. 4. Honele-crondale.

From the obelisk to the hall is half a mile, passing down a lawn to a small piece of water which communicates with the great canal, you arrive at the house, which is situated on a gentle elevation ; at the bottom of which on the north west side, at about one hundred and thirty paces distance, is the lake, which is of great extent, and beautiful. The shore

shore is a very bold one, all covered with wood to a great height, and on the top stands the church. The plantations in general are sketched with more taste than any to be seen: in the number of acres many exceed them; but they appear to various points of view, infinitely more considerable than they really are. At the north entrance into the park they show prodigiously grand; you look full upon the house, with a very noble back ground of wood, the obelisk just above the center, with an extent of plantation on each side that renders the view really magnificent. Nothing can be more beautiful than that from the church; the house appears in the midst of an amphitheatre of wood, the plantations rising one above another. Another point of view which we would recommend to a traveller's notice, is the vale on the east side of the park. The north plantation stretches away to the right, with vast magnificence, and the south woods to the left, and joining in front, which is an extent of plantation that has a noble effect.

The lake, which is one thousand and fifty-six yards long, and contains about twenty acres, is nearly in a lineal direction, skirted on each side with wood, and has in it one beautiful island. The stables, which stand at the south west extremity of the lake, are plain and neat, but commodious and well finished within. Near to these, on the road side, is the dog kennel, where a compleat pack of fox hounds, &c. are kept at an immense expence. The inn, offices, roads and hedges for a considerable distance, are to be thrown down, and the grounds taken into the park; which is proposed to be extended to all the outward plantations around Holkham.

The foundation for an elegant inn is now laid, and a part of the most capital pinery and hot-house in England is erected to the westward of the stables, near which the new kitchen garden is laid out.

In a printed collection of curious plants, the solid puff-balls are said to be found near Holkham park.

*Paintings, Statues, and Busts, at HOLKHAM.*

*Grand apartment.*

Hall, forty-six by seventy, and forty-three feet high, finished with fluted alabaster columns, of the Ionic order.

*Statues in the niches of the colonade.*

Antonius—Santa Susanna—Flora, or the Empress Sabina—Bacchus—Venus de Belle Fesse—Julia Mammea—Faun with the Nacchare—Antique Faun—Septimus Severus—Isis, or Priests of Isis—Apollo.

*Saloon.*

Twenty-eight feet by forty, and thirty-two feet high. The hangings of this room are of crimson saffoy, the column chimney-pieces are Sicilian marble; and over the center door is a large marble busto of Juno,

*Pictures in the saloon.*

The continence of Scipio Africanus. *Guiseppé Chiari.*

Over the chimney-piece, Tarquin and Lucretia. *Procoehiano.*

Over the other chimney-piece, Perseus delivering Andromeda. *Guiseppé Chiari.*

*Coriolanus*

Coriolanus in the camp of the Volsci. *Pietro Cortona.*

Two female portraits over the doors. *Carlo Maratta.*

Over the other side doors are two half length figures. *Agostino Sylla.*

#### *Drawing-room.*

Thirty by twenty-two, and twenty-two feet in height. Statuary marble chimney-piece: two marble bustos upon the cornice of the chimney-piece; one of the emperor Caracalla, the other of Marcus Aurelius.

Over the chimney is the Madona in Gloria. *P. de Pietri.*

Two large bird pieces. *Hendicooter.*

A large landscape, *Claud Lorrain.*

A storm. *Nicolo Poussin.*

Portrait of the duke of Aremberg on horseback. *Vandyk.*

Joseph and Potiphar's wife. *Carlo Cignani.*

Four plaster casts of heads over the doors, Faustina, Pythagoras, Zeno, and Carneades.

Above them are four landscapes. *Horizonti.*

#### *Vestibule to the statue gallery.*

An octagon of twenty-one feet diameter, and thirty-two feet high.

Antique marble bustos, viz. Adrian—Julia Mammea—Julia of Titus—Marcus Aurelius—Gaius—Geta.

#### *Statue gallery.*

Including its two large end niches, is in length sixty feet, twenty-one wide, and twenty-three in height.

*Statues*

*Statues and Bustos in the gallery.*

Two young fawns—A bust of the elder Brutus—Seneca, its companion—A statue of Neptune—Ditto of the God Faunus—Ditto of Meleager.

A statue of the Pythian Apollo, stands in a nich over the chimney ; a head of Sybele over that.

A statue of Venus in thin drapery.

In a larger nich contiguous, stands the celebrated figure of Diana. The next is a figure of a Bacchus.

A busto of Metradorus.

In the smaller niches, the statues of Minerva and Ceres.

A bust of Cornelius Sylla.

Two tables of alabastro Peccorella.

*Statues and Busts in the tribune of the gallery.*

A large statue of Lucius Verus, in a Consular habit.

A statue of Juno.

Agrippina, the wife of Germanicus, in the character of Ceres.

Over the doors are two bustos ; one of the elder empress Faustina, the other of the emperor Philip.

The whole length of the gallery, including the vestibule and tribune, is one hundred and five feet.

*Great dining-room.*

A square of twenty-seven feet, exclusive of its sideboard nich, which is nine feet by ten, in the clear of the opening.

Two chimney-pieces of a similar design, composed of Sicilian jasper trusses, and statuary marble.

The sideboard, table, frame and legs, are of porphyry ; the table slab of Egyptian green marble ; beneath

beneath a large bason of mount Edgcumbe red granite.

Two bustos ; one of Geta, the other of Marcus Aurelius ; two large heads above the chimney-pieces.

*State bed-chamber apartment.*

The first room from the saloon is the state anti-chamber.

A large picture ; the flight of the Virgin and Joseph into Egypt. *Rubens.*

A naked Venus. *Titian.*

A landscape. *Nicolo Poussin.*

Over the chimney, the reconciliation between Jacob and Esau. *Pietro Cortona.*

Lot and his two daughters. *Dominichino.*

A landscape. *Nicolo Poussin.*

Joseph and his mistress. *Guido.*

Over the four doors, portraits of sir Lionel Tal-marsh, and the poet Waller. *Sir Peter Lely.*

A pope. *Pomeranico.*

A Venetian lady. *Titian.*

Two marble bustos ; one is of the vestal Virgin, the other of the younger empress Faustina.

*State dressing-room.* A cube of twenty-one feet.

A landscape over the chimney. *Claud Lorrain.*

Above, St. John the Baptist preaching. *Luca Giordano.*

On each fide of it is a landscape. *Horizonte.*

Below them, two. *Gasper Poussin.*

A landscape, Abraham preparing to sacrifice his son Isaac, rather in a dark stile. *Dominichino.*

A rock, very fine. *Salvator Rosa.*

The pendants that hang on each fide. *Lucatelli.*

A landscape, St. John baptising our Saviour, *F. Bologrese.*

A landscape,

A landscape, its companion. *Gasper Poussin.*

A landscape, figures and cattle. *Claude Lorrain.*

Above it, one. *Claude.*

The pendants; one a sea piece, the other a landscape. *Vernet.*

The pair of landscapes below the above. *Claude Lorrain.*

The pendants below two pictures. ditto.

*State bed-chamber.* Twenty by thirty, and seventeen feet high.

Tapestry hangings; Europe, Africa, Asia, and America.

The four seasons over the doors. *Zucarelli.*

A flowered Genoa velvet bed of three colours.

Over the chimney, Jupiter careffing Juno. *Gavin Hamilton.*

Medallion of Julius Cæsar.

*State bed-chamber closet.*

Polyphemus and Galatea. *Annibal Caracci.*

Piece of macaws and parrots. *Rubens and Snyders.*

Two flower pieces over doors. *Fil. Lauri and M. Angelo.*

A small Holy Family. *Albano.*

Two altar pieces. *Sebastian Conca.*

The portrait of a woman. *Leonardo da Vinci.*

A small portrait, in water colours, of lord chief justice Coke. *Cornelius Jansens.*

Four landscapes in water colours, viz.—A copy of his majesty's C. Lorrain.—Ditto of a landscape from N. Poussin. *Goupy.*—Ditto of a landscape from Rubens. Ditto.—Ditto from N. Poussin. Ditto.

A view of Vignola's palace at Caprarola. *G. Occhiali.*

A view

A view of Rome from the banks of the Tiber.  
Ditto.

The marriage of Psyche. *Ignatius.*

Continence of Scipio.

Two landscapes. *Filippo Lauri.*

A faint beslowing the benediction. *Carlo Maratt.*

Bringing the sick to a faint preaching. *Andrea Mantegna.*

Sketch of the salutation. *C. Maratt.*

Two landscapes in bister. *Claude Lorrain.*

A waterfall. *G. Poussin.*

Nativity of the Virgin. *Di Rosso.*

A battle piece. *Borgognone.*

Nativity of the Virgin. *Frederico Barocci.*

Landscape. *Salvator Rosa.*

Sketch of two figures. *P. Caravagio.*

Sketch for an altar piece. *Ciro Ferri.*

A naked woman. *Guisepppe d'Arpino.*

*Closet to slate bed-chamber.*

The Madona and young Christ. *Raphael.*

A large landscape. *Bartolomeo.*

Two perspective views: the Doge's palace; the Procuratiæ Nuova, the Mint, the Jesuits college, and the church of the Salute. *Gasparo Occhiali.*

Over against it, the bridge and castle of St. Angelo. Ditto.

Cincinnatus at the plough. *Eugio Garzi.*

Front view of St. Peter's church. *Occhiali.*

A view of the collofium, and arch of Constantine. *G. Occhiali.*

Judith, with the head of Holofernes. *Carlo Maratt.*

A view of the rialto at Venice. *Canaletti.*

Palace Cornaro. Ditto.

A portrait of Ruben's daughter. *Rubens.*

*North slate bed-chamber.* A cube of twenty-one feet diameter, hung with tapestry.

Mosaic table slab.

The chimney-piece. *Fior de Persica.*

Over the chimney, a picture of a musician. *Mola.*  
Under it are two small paintings of fowls and fish. *Dupret.*

A whole length portrait of the earl of Leicester, in the robes of the order of the bath. *Richardson.*

*Dressing-room to the north slate bed-chamber.* Twenty-seven by seventeen, and twenty feet high.

A whole length of Mrs. Newton, the earl's grandmother.

Newma Pompilius giving laws to Rome. *Pro-eaccini.*

A Cupid. *Guido Reni.*

Head of an Evangelist. *Ditto.*

The adoration of the magi. *Cavalier Calabrese.*

The Virgin Mary reading. *Carlo Maratt.*

Youth and old age, two pieces. *Lanfranc.*

Woman in a cave. *Parmegiano.*

Mary Magdalen anointing the feet of Christ. *P. Veroneze.*

Apollo and Daphne. *Carlo Maratt.*

Christ fallen under the Cross. *Giacomo Baffano.*

The Virgin, young Christ, St. John, and Joseph. *An old copy after Raphael.*

Fruits and flowers, a fountain and macaw. *Hondiooter.*

The deluge. *Carlandrucci.*

A landscape. *Annibal Carracci.*

Small landscape and figures, a repose. *Claude Lorrain.*

NORTH GREENHOE. 49

St. George, Santa Saba, and the dragon. *Studio.*  
Full length of lady Leicester, and her son, lord  
**Coke.** *Richardson.*

A drapery figure of an *Isis.*

*Chapel.* Sixty-three by eighteen, and twenty-seven  
feet high.

The assumption of the Virgin. *Guido Reni.*  
Santa Cecilia, and St. Anne. *Cypriani.*  
Abraham, Hagar, and Ishmael. *Andrea Sacchi.*  
The Angel appearing to Joseph in a dream. *Lan-*  
*franc.*

Rebecca at the well, and the servant of Jacob.  
*B. Luti.*

Over the chimney-piece, St. Mary Magdalen and  
an Angel. *Carlo Maratt.*

*Family Wing.*

Anti-room, eighteen feet square by sixteen, the  
height of this floor.

On the chimney-piece, of purple and white Carrara  
marble, stands the Egyptian God Canopus.

Two heads in marble; one of Alexander, the  
other of Homer.

A plaster cast of Cupid and Psyche.

Above the chimney is a portrait of John Coke,  
esq.

Over the door, a head unknown.

A whole length of the duchess of Richmond.  
*Kneller.*

A head of lady Anne Tufton, countess of Salisbury.

A whole length of lady Walpole. *Kneller.*

A whole length of lady Dover. *Ditto.*

Oval portrait of Mrs. Coke, mother to the earl of  
Leicester.

A whole length of Mrs. Henningham. *Kneller.*

*Dressing-*

*Dressing-room.* Twenty-four feet by eighteen.

A whole length of Edward Coke, esq. father to the earl of Leicester. *Kneller.*

Mrs. Cary Newton, mother to the earl of Leicester, whole length. *Ditto.*

Oval portrait of lord Clifford over the door.

Above, is a head of Mr. Henningham.

Underneath, lady Mary Henningham, his wife.

Below, Dorothy Walpole, lady Townshend. *Jarvis.*

Over the chimney is Catherine Tufton, lady Sondes. *Dahl.*

Anne Tufton, countess of Salisbury. *Jarvis.*

Head of Richard Coke, esq.

Lady Coke, wife of sir Robert Coke.

The duchess of Richmond.

The duke of Leeds, and lady Caernarvon. *Kneller.*

Over the library door, the countess of Leicester.

Mrs. Price. *Sir Peter Lely.*

*Library.* Fifty-four feet by eighteen.

Over the chimney, a sea piece. *Griffier.*

*Mrs. Coke's dressing-room.* Eighteen feet by Twenty-four.

Over the chimney, lady Catherine and Ann Tufton.

Madona and St. Francis. *Cavedone.*

An altar piece. *Solinene.*

Two landscapes over the side doors. *Lucatelli.*

Head of Christ. *Frederico Borocci.*

Head of the Virgin Mary. *C. Maratti.*

The death of Lucretia. *Luca Giordane.*

Over the door a moon-light piece. *Vandermeire.*

## NORTH GREENHOE. 51

Two pieces of poppies and thistles. *Flemish Master.*

Over the door towards the library, a storm at sea. This picture, and the four small ones in the lower tier, *Livio Meus.*

*Bed-chamber.* Eighteen feet square.

Over the chimney, a view of the palace and place of St. Mark, at Venice. *Canalitti.*

The maid of the inn. *Rosalba.*

Two pieces of fowls over the doors. *Imperiali.*

This room is hung with tapestry executed by Vanderbank.

*Mrs. Coke's closet.*

Over the chimney, a large coloured drawing of St. Ignatius's chapel. *Francesco Bartoli.*

Two papal crowns and a mitre. *Ditto.*

Four circular drawings in red chalk. *Giacomo Frey.*

A portrait of lord Coke, in crayons. *Rosalba.*

Two girls heads. *Luti.*

Two views in water colours. *G Occhiali.*

Assumption of the Madona, an agate. *Rotenhamer.*

Two drawings framed and glazed. *Kent.*

Two drawings of views in circles. *Occhiali.*

An oblong sea view. *Ditto.*

Two young heads. *Kent.*

A drawing, the death of Cleopatra. *Ditto.*

A drawing, Augustus and Cleopatra. *Ignatius.*

Two views of Roman buildings, Trinita de Monti, and the palace Salviati.

Over the book-cases are two small portraits in oil colours, of lord Leicester's father and mother.

E

Above

Above the altar-piece is a small painting of a Cupid drawn in a car. *Guido Reni.*

A miniature head of St. John, upon copper.

Cardinal Gualtero, a ditto, upon copper.

A head of Christ, and a Diana's. *Ignatius.*

*Miniatures in a rose wood case, painted in enamel.*

Earl of Leicester, lord Coke, Henry Coke, his son.

A Madona, a Leda.

Portrait of the duke of Leeds.

Earl of Leicester. *Rosalba.*

Princeps Borghese, in a vestal habit. *Ignatius.*

Lady Lansdowne, Mrs. Rouse, Mrs. Henningham, of a lady unknown, sir Marmaduke Wyvill, two mens heads unknown.

*Strangers Wing.*

In the corridor leading to it from the statue gallery, is a bust of the emperor Saloninus.

A plaster cast of the little Apollo.

A ditto of the Camillus.

A ditto of the Venus de Medici.

A ditto of the Muse Urania.

*Anti-room.*

Over the chimney-piece a whole length portrait of lord Coke.

Over doors, lord Leicester's father.

Its companion, the same when a lad.

Facing the entrance, Richard Coke and his wife, Mary Rouse.

On the window side, is a whole length of Robert Coke.

Lady Ann Coke and her son, whole lengths. *Sir Godfrey Kneller.*

On

On the corridor side are two whole lengths, the earl and countess of Leicester. *Cavalier Casali.*

Two door pieces, the earl of Leicester and his brother.

Edward, when young.

Bust of a Roma.

*Dressing-room.*

Above the chimney is a whole length sitting figure of the earl of Leicester. *Trevisani.*

Over side doors, colonel Walpole, and lady Mary Henningham.

Lord chief justice Coke and his first wife, Mrs. Paston. *Cavalier Casali.*

Over a door, archbishop Laud.

Over the center door, sir Thomas More.

Henry Coke, of Thorrington, fifth son of lord chief justice Coke, and Margaret Lovelace, his wife. *C. Casali.*

*Bed-chamber.* Hung with tapestry, from designs of Watteau.

Over the chimney-piece, a portrait of the first duke of Leeds. *Vandyk.*

*Dressing-room.*

A landscape and ruins, figure of Time. *Gisolfi.*  
Deborah and Barak. *Solimene.*

A small view of Naples. *G. Occhiali.*

Two pieces of ruins. *Viviani.*

Over the center door, figures and ruins. *M. A. Caravagio.*

Two views; one of Naples, the other of Nettuno. *Occhiali.*

A woman's head, copied from Guido Reni. *Kent.*

Two heads of Madonas after Raphael

Over the side door, nymphs bathing. *F. Lauri.*  
 The nativity of St. Ann. *Baccicia Gala.*  
 The genius of the Arts supporting the figure of  
 Time. *Sebastian Conca.*

*Green damask bed-chamber.*

Portrait of an earl of Warwick. *Vandyk.*

*Green damask dressing-room.*

Over the chimney, a portrait of the princess of  
 Orange, mother to king William. *Sir Peter Lely.*  
 Diana and her nymphs. *Dominichino.*  
 St. Jerome in the desert. *Titian.*  
 Galatea, a large picture. *Albano.*  
 Landscape over the door. *Gasper Poussin.*  
 Figure of a magician mounted up in the air. *Tintoret.*  
 Elysian fields. *Sebastian Conca.*

*Blue and yellow bed-chamber.*

A number of Cupids sleeping, and nymphs of  
 Diana clipping their wings. *Albano.*

*Blue sattin dressing-room.*

Above the center door is an original cartoon of  
 Raphael, the Madona, young Christ, and St. John,  
 in chiara oscuro.

Drawings in red chalk. *Juno Lanumvina.*  
 A man's head in black chalk. *C. Maratt.*  
 A landscape in red chalk. *Dominichino.*  
 A chiaro oscuro painting upon board; figures of  
 men, some bathing, some dressing in a hurry, as if  
 alarmed by the approach of an enemy. *M. Angelo  
 Buonarotti.*

Hannibal passing the Alps with his army, in red  
 chalk. *P. Cortona.*

Academy

Academy figure, in red chalk. *Andrea Sacchi.*

Ditto, of *Dominichino.*

Ditto, of *Andrea Sacchi.*

A pestilence, in bister. *N. Poussin.*

Head upon blue paper, in black chalk. *Dominichino.*

Over the chimney-glass, a small academy figure, drawn with the pen. *Raphael.*

A head of Madona, black chalk. *Francesco Chiari.*

Composition, a tomb on the fore ground. *Van Lint.*

A head, red chalk, upon blue paper. *C. Maratt.*

Esculapius, from an antique statue, red chalk.

Middle row, the first from the door, the Virgin embracing the cross, in black chalk.

Crucifixion of St. Andrea, red and white chalk.

*C. Ferri.*

Christ carrying the cross. *Luca d'Olando.*

A study from a fox, with the pen. *Annibal Carracci.*

A battle piece. *Monfu Leander.*

Academy figure, in red chalk. *Bernini.*

A woman possessed, figures in red chalk. *School of Raphael.*

Academy figure, in black and white chalk. *Lanfranco.*

Over the door, Venus and Adonis, in red chalk. *Guercino.*

Flora's head, in red chalk. *C. Maratt.*

Man's head, in black chalk. *Correggio.*

Wife mens offerings, in bister. *Pietro Perugino.*

A landscape and figures, with the pen. *C. Lorrain.*

Soldiers breaking down a bridge, in bister. *Par-megiano.*

The ascension, in black chalk. *C. Maratt.*

Madona and young Christ, in red chalk. Ditto

A drapery figure, a young man sitting. *Correggio.*

A Christ with the cross. *Giuseppe d'Arpino.*

A salutation. *C. Maratt.*

An emblematic subject, in red chalk. *Lanfranco.*

Our Saviour and his Apostles. *School of Raphael.*

An assumption of the Virgin, in bister. *Cirro*

*Ferri.*

Battle piece, with the pen and India ink. *Monsu Leander.*

Drawing of Joseph and his brethren. *Pollidor Caravagio.*

Taking down from the cross. *Guercino.*

St. Francis healing a lame man. *Andrea Sacchi.*

An apostle, drawn with the pen. *Titian.*

St. Paul preaching. *Carlo Maratt.*

An academy figure, pen and bister. *Guercino.*

Flight into Egypt, pen and wash. *Agostino Carracci.*

Cupid and Psyche, a red chalk drawing.

Two Roman saints healing the blind. *Giovani Bonati.*

St. John baptising our Saviour, in bister. *C. Maratt.*

Academy figure, red chalk. *Andrea Camasseo.*

Cattle and countrymen. *Castiglione.*

Portrait of a woman, in red chalk. *Titian.*

Marriage of Joseph and the Virgin Mary, black chalk. *A. Masucci.*

Sketch of a female saint, in red chalk. *C. Maratt.*

*Bustos and statues in the vestibule under the portico, now used as a billiard-room.*

A medallion, in marble, of Carneades.

Lysias, the Athenian orator.

Plato.—Cicero.—Seneca,

A large figure of Jupiter.

Two cinerary urns, in the form of altars.

Six plaster casts in niches, viz.—Apollo of the Belvidere—Meleager of Pichini.—Ganymede of the Villa Medici.—Ptolemy.—Venus di Belle Fesse.—Dancing Fawn.

Two large sideboard slabs of Mount Edgecumbe, red granite.

*In the porter's hall, or guard-room.*

Bust in plaster, earl of Leicester. *Roubiliac.*

Bust of the empress Salonina.

Bust of Lucius Lentulus.

Consular bust and pedestal.

*Audit-room.\* Twenty-one feet by forty-eight.*

Above the chimney-piece, medallion of a Fawn.

*Bustos in the portico of the steward's lodge.*

Mecænas.

A cast of the emperor Titus, in modern bronze.

Within; plaster bust of the earl of Leicester.

*Roubiliac.*

*Seat upon the mount.*

A small antique figure of the river Nile, in white marble.

A coro marino antique; consisting of many figures, sea nymphs, centaurs, and cupids, in alto relief.

*In the green-house.*

A plaster cast, taken from an original mould of the lion in the Villa Medici, ascribed to Flammius Vacca.

\* This room is sometimes used as a dining-room.

*In the orangery.*

A fine antique Corinthian capital, in white marble; also two antique marble bases of columns.

*In the court between the kitchen and chapel wings.*

A large fluted antique Sarcophagus, without its cover; the body of it is quite entire, and in good preservation.

*In the temple.*

The little Apollo of Medici, Venus of Medici, dancing Fawn of ditto, Ptolemy of ditto, all plaster casts from the antique.

The church stands on a hill north of the town, one mile from the sea, and is a noted sea-mark, commanding an extensive prospect on the British ocean: the hill seems to have been thrown up in the Saxon age, and Danish invasions, and to have served as a *speculum* or exploratory fort; and there is another hill a little south of it, called Hoe Hill, where several human bones, and pieces of iron armour have been found in digging, and was probably a large tumulus; and afterwards the place where the hundred court was held.

The church is dedicated to St. Withburga, and has a nave, north and south isle, with a chancel, all covered with lead. At the south west corner of the south isle stands a strong four-square tower, embattled, with four bells; the lower part serves as a porch to the church: the north and south isles extend on each side of the chancel, and serve as buttresses against storms from the sea. The east end of both these isles were chapels, and are inclosed.

In

In the chapel on the south side, against the east wall, is a large marble monument:

*To the reviving memory of William Wheateley, Esq; and Martha Skinner his wife; and Anthony Wheateley, Esq; and Anne Armiger his wife; and also of Muriel Coke, late wife of John Coke, of Holkham in the county of Norfolk, Esq; the fourth son of the Right Honourable Sir Edward Coke.*

On this monument are small portraiture of the abovementioned persons, and on the basis are several children kneeling.

Against the south wall, over an altar tomb, is a mural monument:

*To the pious memory of Miles Armiger, gent. the son of William Armiger, deceased, late of North Creak, Esq; which Miles died a Bachelor, May 10, 1639, aged 64 years.*

In the chancel a grave-stone *In memory of John Coke, Esq; 4th son of Sir Edward Coke, &c. who married Muriel, daughter of Anthony Wheatley, of Hill Hall in Holkham.*

One *In memory of Muriel Legard, daughter of Charles Legard, Esq; of Anlady in Yorkshire, and Theophila his wife, 4th daughter of John Coke, Esq;*

Another for *Frances, wife of Ralph Caldwell, Esq, of Hilborow, daughter of Francis Nevil, Esq. of Horton in Yorkshire, who died November 4, 1747, aged 40,*

In the middle isle on a stone—*Orate p. a' i'a. Robi. Dockyng, qui obiit — 1458.*

The

The church had antiently two medietyes, one belonging to the king's manor, the other to that of Tovi, which coming to the crown, the patronage of both rested there, till granted with those lordships from the crown.

The Rev. Mr. Willian Langton was presented to this vicarage by the late Wenman Coke, esq. member of parliament for the county of Norfolk, 1775.

HOUGHTON, called Houghton in the Hole, in the dale, near Walsingham, by the hills, and in old writings Haeton, from its scite by the hills; was a beruite to the king's manor of Wighton, in king Edward's time, and remained so at the survey.

The family of de Vallibus or Vaux, were early enfeoffed of this lordship, and was held in the reign of Henry II. and king Stephen, by Robert de Vaux; and sir Oliver de Vaux was lord of Haeton in the reign of Henry III. held *in capite* to the king, as lord of the hundred.

Sir John de Vaux dying in the 16th of Edward I. it came to his two daughters and co-heirs, Petronilla, and Maud, who held it by the payment of twenty shillings to the hundred, and a quarter of wheat per ann. and had the lete, a gallows, and other royal liberties.

NARFORD'S MANOR. Petronilla married sir William de Narford, and held a moiety of it in her right, and in this family it continued till issue male failing, on the death of sir John de Narford, in the 38th of Edward III. it descended to his only daughter, Margery, who died possessed of it in 1417, leaving

leaving it, as we suppose, to the lord Cobham, and so passed as in Narford manor, in Holt.

After this William Lexham was lord, in the 31st of Henry VI. and one of the same name left it in the 15th of Henry VII. to his four daughters and co-heirs,

Ross's MANOR. Maud youngest daughter and co-heir of sir John de Vaux, had also a moiety, which by her marriage came to William lord Ross, of Hamlake, in which family it continued, and came, after the attainder of Thomas lord Ross, to his eldest daughter, Elizabeth, who married sir Robert Manners, whose son, George lord Ross, inherited it, and was sold by Henry earl of Rutland, his descendant.

In 1551, Martin Hastings, gent. presented to the vicarage, but whether he was lord does not appear.

Giles Symonds, of Hildolyeston, gent. was lord of the town in the year 1571; and Henry Sidney, esq. was lord in the 42d of Elizabeth.

In 1720, colonel Lee possessed it, and his son Henry Lee Warner, esq. died lord, and his son Henry Lee Warner, esq. of Walsingham, inherits it.

The church of Houghton, dedicated to St. Giles, was a rectory; on its appropriation to the priory of Horsham St. Faith's, a vicarage was settled. It is a single building and of the same height with the chancel, covered with lead; and has a tower with three bells.

In the chancel, on the north side, on a mural marble monument adorned with arms, &c.

*Memoriae Sacrum*  
*Vivit hoc marmor*  
*Gulielmi Fenn, Generosi.*  
*Deo } obsequentiissimi filij,*  
*et Ecclesiæ }  
*Uxori suæ amantissimi mariti,*  
*Liberis } indulgentissimi patris,*  
*et Pauperibus.*  
*Qui cælo maturus suum mortale exuit*  
*5<sup>o</sup>. die Januarij An. Dni. 1702 ætat. 50.**

In the church and chancel there are several other stones with inscriptions relative to the Fenns. In the chancel are buried likewise under a marble stone, several of the name of Swallow.

The Rev. Samuel Hemington was presented to this vicarage by the late H. Lee Warner, esq. 1742.

**QUARLES.** In the book of Doomsday it is wrote Guervelei, and was then held by Turstin, of Roger Bigot, and was a beruite belonging to the manor of North Creak.

The king's manor also of Wighton extended into this township.

Turstin abovementioned was enfeoffed by Roger Bigot, of North Creak manor, with this. He was ancestor of the family of de Creak, and in the beginning of Henry III.'s reign, the tenant of Robert son of Ralph Quarles, held one half fee of the Creaks.

Sir

Sir John de Thorpe was lord in the 35th of Edward I. and in the 4th of Edward III. Edmund de Baconsthorpe held it of Robert de Thorpe.

Sir Stephen de Hales aliened this manor, with one hundred and forty-five acres of land, &c. in Holkham and Burnham, with the rent of ten marks, to Creak abbey. At the dissolution of that abbey, it was granted with it, the 22d of Henry VII. to Margaret countess of Richmond, the king's mother, and on her founding of Christ college, in Cambridge, was settled by her on that society, and is held of that college, by lease, at this day. Here is now a farm, or manor-houle, only remaining.

The church has been demolished many years, and was in ruins in 1571.

It was antiently a rectory, and the vicarage, after its appropriation to Creak abbey, in the patronage of that convent.

After Richard Walsingham, in 1393, we find no institution to this vicarage.

Thomas William Coke, esq. of Holkham, is the present proprietor; and a part of his plantations, and the triumphal arch built by lord Leicester, is on this manor and parish of Quarles.

**SNORING, MAGNA.** William the Conqueror took possession of this lordship: Godric took care of it for the king, and was steward of it. Thursford was a beruite to it, and was measured together with it. It stands by a little stream or rivulet, called probably in the Saxon age, the Nar or Snar,\* as

little

\* Parkin.

little Snoring, in Gallow hundred, does on another, both which streams are soon after united.

How long this lordship continued in the crown, does not appear; that it was in the family of de Burgolion, we find by a pleading in the 41st of Henry III.

Sir Robert Burgolion was lord in the 15th of Edward II. and dying then possessed of a moiety of this lordship, Sarah his mother held the other moiety as part of her dower; and Hugh was his son and heir, aged twelve years. And in the following year, on the death of Sarah his grandmother, he had the whole manor.

In 1322, the lady Joan de Burgolion presented to the rectory of this church. Sir Ralph Shelton, of Shelton in Norfolk, was his cousin and heir, and presented to this church as lord, in 1353, was at the battle of Cressy, &c. and buried in the church of Shelton, in 1375. In the family of Shelton it remained till sir Ralph sold this lordship, with that of Thursford, about the year 1611, to Thomas Richardson, esq. serjeant at law, afterwards lord chief justice of the King's Bench.

This sale gave rise to a joke or pun, that is said to be made by sir Ralph, which was, "That he could sleep without *Snoring*."

Sir Thomas Richardson, son of the lord chief justice, enjoyed it.

In 1695, John Ward, gent. of Hindringham, was lord, who gave it, with Thursford-Shelton's, to Mr. Nun, of Thorpland, who held it in 1715.

The

The church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and is a Rectory.

The lord Richardson sold the advowson to Samuel Verdon, gent. who gave it to his half brother, the Rev. Thomas Verdon, fellow of St. John's college, and rector of this church, who sold it to the said society, and there is a manor belonging to the rectory.

The church has a nave, with a south isle, and chancel covered with lead; at the west end is a square tower, with a spire, covered with lead, and one bell, with a faint's bell, and a clock.

In the chancel, north of the communion table, lies a grey marble, with the portraiture of a knight and his lady in brafs, and in his coat armour; at his feet, a lion couchant, at her's a dog; on the upper part of the stone the arms of Shelton, azure, a cross, or, impaling Burgolion, quarterly, or, and gules, in the second and third quarter, three annulets, argent; also Shelton impaling—argent, a cross moline, gules, Uvedale, over all a bend, sable; at their feet, Burgolion, impaling per pale, or, and gules, a lion passant, argent, Plaiz; Burgolion and Shelton.

The legend round the verge—*Orate p. a'lab; Radulfi Shelton, militis, et Domine Alicie uxoris ejus, filie Thome de Uvedal, militis, qui quidem Radulfus, obt. xxv die Apr. Ao. M. ccc. xxiii.*

Here also was an altar tomb, with a marble stone thereon, and the portraiture of sir John Heveningham and his lady, Alice daughter of sir Ralph Shelton;

ton; under him were three sons, and under her two daughters, all which are reved and obliterated.

Against the south wall, a mural monument ornamented with books, lamps, festoons, arms, &c.—  
*Hic jacet sepultus Edwardus Fenn de Houghton, ecclsiæ Christi presbiter, et aliquot annis hujusc curatus, &c.*  
*Obt. 21 Feb. 1710, ætat. 33.*

In a south window of the chancel, were Kerdeston's arms, impaling Burgolion, Shelton impaling Barret.

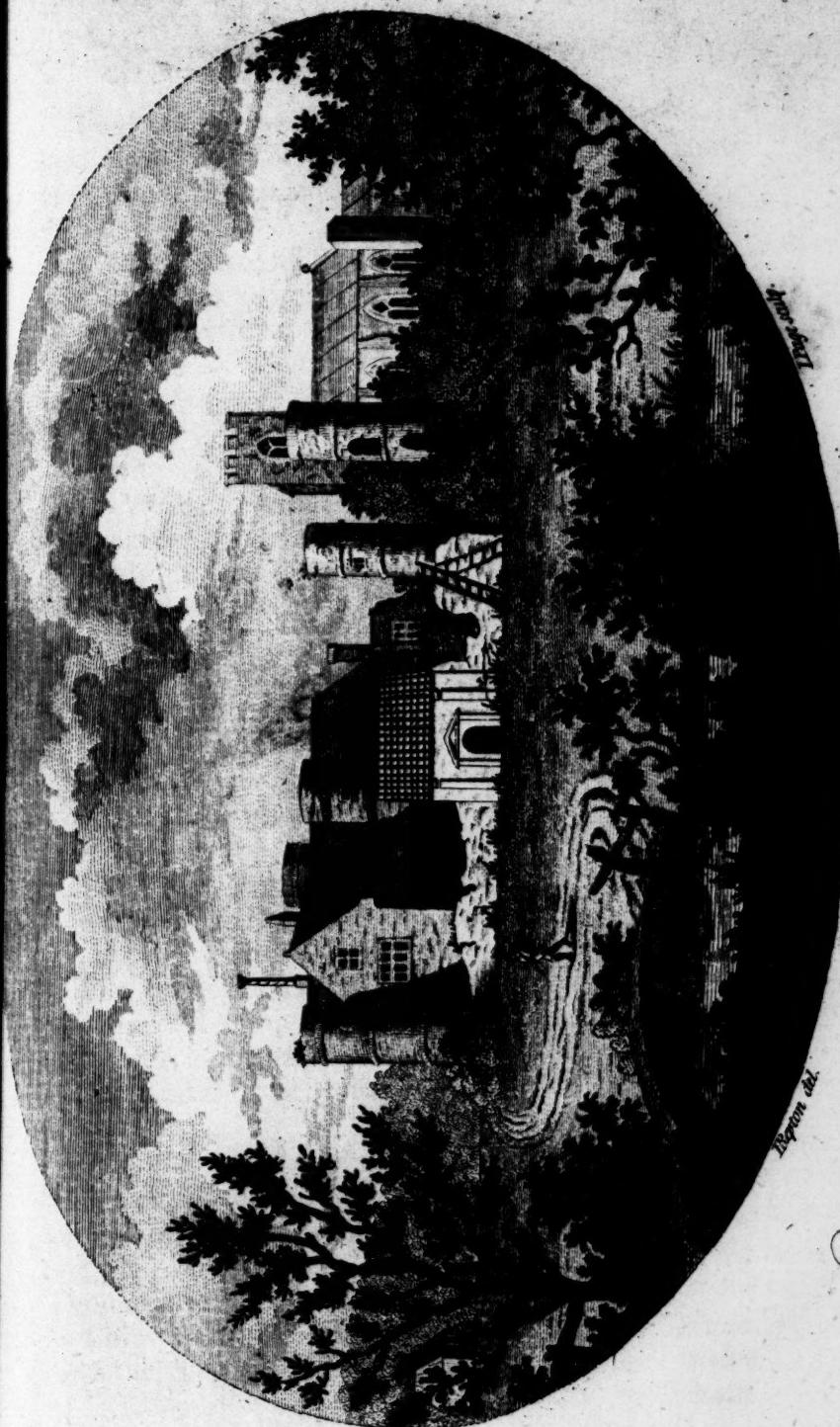
In many windows about the church were the arms of sir Ralph Shelton, impaling Uvedale, who were probably the builders of, or benefactors to the present church, in the reign of Henry VI,

In the window was also the effigies of sir Thomas Erpingham, in armour, with his arms and crest, a plume of ostrich's feathers, argent, issuing out of a coronet, gules, with his motto, *Pinche*, or *Pinke*; and in the steeple window, those of Elmham, Galthorpe, Uvedale, &c.

In this town there was also a little lordship called SNORING's, held by a family of that name.

The Rev. Mr. William Stephens was presented to this rectory, with Thursford, (consolidated November 1748) by the master and fellows of St. John's college, Cambridge, 1775.

STIFKEY, vulgarly called STUKEY. The principal lordship of this town was granted to Rainald son of Ivo, a Norman.



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Reprint ed.

To the Right Honourable Lord Viscount Townshend

Published as the Act directs, Feb'y 21<sup>st</sup> 1780, by M. Booth, Norwich.

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TURTEVILE'S and IRMINGLAND'S MANORS were held of the earls of Clare, to which family the lands of Rainold descended.

A family who assumed their name from this village was early enfeoffed thereof. Jeffrey and Hugh de Stifkey lived in the reign of Richard I. and in the 4th year of Henry III. a fine was levied between Philip de Stifkey, &c.

In the 2d of Edward I. and in the 11th of that king, William de Hevingham, and John de Turtevile, agreed to divide this estate, and to present alternately to the rectory of the church of St. John Baptist in this town.

Ralph de Irmington presented to the same church, as lord, in 1327.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Thomas Turtevile and William Irmington were lords.

Three daughters of Richard Irmington, esq. conveyed their right to John Winter, esq.

The other moiety, called Turtevile's, was in sir William Yelverton in 1458, and soon after it came to John Winter, esq. of Barningham, who presented to the church of St. John, 1491.

In the 28th of Henry VIII. John Winter, gent. conveyed it to sir William Fermour, of East Basham, kn. and Thomas Fermour, esq. by indenture, Nov. 4; in the 12th of Elizabeth, passed it to Thomas Andrews and his heirs, together with the lordships of Stifkey, Curlew, East-Hall, &c. in this town; with the advowsons of the churches; from

F whom

whom it was conveyed to sir Nicholas Bacon, lord-keeper in the reign of queen Elizabeth, who gave it to his son, sir Nathaniel Bacon, knight of the bath, by whose daughter and co-heir, Ann, (married to sir John Townshend, knt. of Rainham) it came into the family and so continues; the Right Hon. George lord viscount Townshend being the present lord and patron.

**CURLEW'S MANOR.** Richard Curlew was found to hold half a fee of the earl of Gloucester, in the reign of Henry III. Thomas de Curlew conveyed it in the 7th of Edward I. to William de Turteville; and Robert son of the said William, possessed it in the 13th of Edward II. and so became united to the manor of Turteville.

**EAST-HALL.** Jeffrey Est was found, in the 8th of Edward II. at his death, to have half a fee in this town, Wells and Warham; and John Est was lord of it in the 4th of Henry IV. after which it was united to Turteville's manor.

**STIFKEY-HALL.** William the Conqueror was lord of this manor. And there was a little lordship belonging to this manor that extended into Wells.

Part of Stifkey was also a beruite to the king's manor of Aylsham.

All this was managed for the king, by earl Godwin, who was his steward. The king had also in his own hands half a carucate of land here, belonging to his manor of Wighton.

All these possessions abovementioned remained some time in the crown: the first that we find in possession of them, and held them *in capite*, was William

William de Wendevale, a Norman, whose brother, Robert, dying *s. p.* they escheated to the crown, and were granted to the earls of Pembroke, &c.

**STIFKEY MANOR.** The hall, or manor-house (now ruinous and occupied by the tenant of the farm) is the stately remains of a large and noble structure, built by sir Nicholas Bacon, knt. lord keeper in the reign of queen Elizabeth ; whose arms, and date, 1604, are on the gate-way. The house is situated in the bottom of a deep and gloomy vale, surrounded with high and steep hills : a flow, meandering stream running close by its south front ; environed with a few tall trees, which adds not a little to the melancholy appearance of the whole.

The west front, with two embrasured towers, is more uniform than most houses, of the same age. The gate-way introduced you to a spacious area, of which the main building formed the west and north, and the gardens and offices, with high walls, the east side.

The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, stands on the higher ground, a little north of the hall, as does the parsonage, a neat and commodious dwelling, now occupied by the rector. The present lord viscount Townshend resided here some time, after his return from Ireland, where he had presided as lord lieutenant with the greatest reputation and dignity for many years.

The other church, now dilapidated, was dedicated to St. Mary.

William de Valentia, half brother to Henry III. and earl of Pembroke, had a grant of this united

manor, belonging to the crown, in the 32d of the said king ; and the advowson of St. Mary's church in this town.

Adomare de Valentia, earl of Pembroke, his son, inherited it, on whose death, in 1323, it descended to David de Strathbolgi, earl of Athol in Scotland, in right of his wife; on whose death, in the 20th of Edward II. it came to his son David, who being a rebel, and in the Scots army, Edward III. granted it April 4, in his 9th year, to sir Walter Manny, knt. who presented as lord to the church of St. Mary, in 1349 and 1352. He held it till David, the third earl of Athol, was of age, who dying possessed of it, and of Holkham, in the 49th of Edward III. left issue two daughters and co-heirs; the younger, Philippa, married sir Ralph Percy, and had this lordship, and that of West Lexham; she surviving sir Ralph, re-married sir John Halsham, of Kent, lord in her right in the 12th of Richard II.

John Halsham presented as lord in 1413; and sir Hugh Halsham dying lord in the 20th of Henry VI. and having no issue, this lordship came to Joan daughter and heir to his brother, (Richard Halsham) and wife of John Lewkenor, esq. from whom it came to sir Jeffrey Boleyn, knt. and lord mayor of London in 1457; and sir James Boleyn presented to St. Mary's church in 1542.

After this James Calthorpe, esq. had an interest herein; but in the year 1564 John Baynard appears to be lord, who with Edmund Baynard, sold it in the 13th of queen Elizabeth to sir Nicholas Bacon, lord keeper, and it came in marriage to sir John Townshend, of Rainham, and the Right Hon.

George

George lord viscount Townshend is the present lord and patron.

In the north side of the church of Stifkey, (as Weaver says) lie entombed *John Calthorpe, esq. and Alice Irmington, his wife*, with their portraits; the monument defaced.

Also these arms—gules, on a fess, between six billets, argent, three Cornish choughs, sable, Irmington.—Calthorpe—Bacon—L'Estrange—Masculy—Reymes—Winter—Inglois—and Barsham. On the outside of the porch, in freestone, Irmington, and Daubeny, gules, five fusils in fess, argent, and two martlets in chief.

Mr. Arthur Young, in his tour through the east of England, observes that “The ride from Warham by Stifkey, is through a much more picturesque country than is commonly met with in Norfolk; the road runs on the brow of the hill looking down on Stifkey vale. The vale, which is composed of meadows of the finest verdure, winds in a very beautiful manner from out of a thicket of woody inclosures, and retires behind a projecting hill; an humble stream glides through it, and adds a clearfulness which water can alone confer. The hills rise in a bold manner; they are bare of wood, but that is compensated by the thick inclosures, in which the village is scattered, forming with its church in a dip of the hill, and that of Blakeney above it, in a prouder situation, a most compleat and pleasing picture.”

To the westward of the village, on the road to Wells and Warham, is a promontory called Wayborough, or, more commonly, War-borough hill,

on which there are very visible remains of circular entrenchments, and to the east of that one mile, is a green knowl called Camping Hill, thought to have been also intrenched, but we do not find any vestige left.

These two hills look on the British ocean; and over a vast tract of salt-marsh, extending along this coast from Clay harbour to Hunstanton cliff, twenty miles, and in many places one mile wide.

The sea has thrown up a range of sand-hills, called Meals, and seems as if nature itself had pointed out the improvement of those rich lands, by forming an impenetrable barrier, which might be aided with great facility, and at moderate expence: at the same time, taking care to preserve the navigation of the rivers and creeks with wide embankments, and large reservoirs to let down as back-water to scour and keep clean the channels: but such is the prejudice of the ignorant in every part, that where *improvement* of any kind is recommended, they immediately conceive themselves interested and aggrieved, and assume a right to be consulted in matters where they have neither the expence nor advantage arising.

The Meals are covered chiefly with a bent weed called marim, and inhabited only by rabbits. They have in many places increased, and there are now large bodies of firm sand where, a few years ago, was an open beach: indeed, a very little assistance would render the whole of equal size and duration. Whins or furze might be reared to advantage.

The Rev. Mr. Arthur Branthwayte, brother of Miles Branthwayte, esq. of Norwich, was presented

to the united rectories of Stifkey St. John and St. Mary, with Morston in Holt hundred, by lord viscount Townshend, August 1769, at which time they were consolidated.

THURSFORD was a beruite to Snoring Magna at the survey. It was then the king's manor, and Godric was his steward of it.

It seems to take its name from its ford, or pass over the water, of the Thur, on which it stands, being wrote in Doomsday-book Turesfort.†

The family of Burgolion held this lordship as a member or beruite to Snoring Magna, from whom it passed to the Sheltons, the Richardsons, &c. and was held by Mr. Neen in 1715, as is mentioned in Snoring Magna.

The prior of Binham's manor of Berney extended into this town, which, on the dissolution of the convent, was granted to Thomas Paston, esq. November 15, in the 33d of Henry VIII.

In queen Elizabeth's reign it was possessed by the Haydons, of Baconsthorpe, and afterwards by sir Thomas Guybon, knt. descended from Thomas Guybon, esq. of North Lynn. From sir Thomas it lineally descended to William Guybon, esq. at whose decease this lordship was sold by his executors to George Chad, esq. recorder of Lynn, the present possessor of it; who has here a seat, gardens and plantations in much taste.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and is a rectory.

The Rev. Mr. William Stephens was presented to this rectory, with Snoring Magna, (consolidated Nov. 1748) by the master and fellows of St. John's college, Cambridge, 1775.

**GREAT, or OLD WALSINGHAM; and LITTLE, or NEW WALSINGHAM.** These two parishes are here described together, as having been chiefly under the same lord, &c.

Little, or New Walsingham is a considerable town, with a weekly market on Friday, and a fair on Whitsun Monday. It is delightfully situated on the banks of a nameless river, which runs into the sea below Stifkey, six or seven miles from this. The grounds on each side rising in a bold manner, gives the country here an appearance not often to be met with in this county.—The plantations of Mr. Warner, the abbey, and church with a small spire, are fine objects, presenting themselves in different points of view as you approach the town, either from Wells or Fakenham.

Walsingham is distant from Norwich twenty-seven miles, Fakenham five, Holt nine, Wells five, Burnham six, Lynn twenty-three, East Dereham seventeen, and is a post-town, where a London mail arrives every morning except Tuesday, from whence it is forwarded, by Wells, to Burnham and to Holt.

This town, says a Gazetteer writer, “is famous for the ruins of a monastery, founded four hundred years before the dissolution of religious houses, which had a shrine of the Virgin Mary, almost as much frequented at one time as Thomas Becket's at Canterbury.” The same writer observes, but erroneously, that “the soil here is noted for producing good

good saffron, as well as southern-wood." This notorious falsehood has crept into most of the topographical descriptions extant.

**BINHAM PRIORY MANOR.** Peter de Valoins was lord of a part of the town of Walsingham Magna, at the survey, by the gift of the Conqueror.

One of this lord Peter de Valoins' knights, gave, according to the practice of those times, two parts of the tithes of this lordship to the priory of Binham, founded by his lord in the reign of Henry I. which Roger lord Valoins confirmed, with other immunities.

On the general dissolution it was granted by the crown to sir Thomas Paston, Nov. 18, in the 23d of Henry VIII. paying 9s. 7d. per ann.

**THE KING'S MANOR.** William I. seized on this, which was one of king Harold's lordships, belonging to the royal manor of Fakenham. How long it continued in the crown does not appear; it seems in the reign of king John to be forfeited by William de Brencourt, or Favencourt, on his rebellion against that king, and was granted in his 6th year (as an escheat, and land of the Normans) to Richard earl of Clare, of whom and his family, see in the following lordship.

**THE EARL OF CLARE'S LORDSHIPS.** Rainald son of Ivo, obtained two of the principal manors in these towns, on the conquest: one in Great Walsingham, and the other in Walsingham Parva.

Rainald was a Norman nobleman, and attended William on his invasion; how long he possessed these

these lordships does not appear : Walter Giffard, earl of Bucks, or his son, seems to have been the next lord ; whose sister and co-heir, Rohais, married Richard Fitz Gilbert, alias de Clare, ancestor of the earls of Hertford and Clare ; whose descendants, the earls of Clare, inherited them.

Richard de Clare, earl, in the 32d of Henry III. gave these lordships to his brother, William de Clare, who had a grant of free warren in Walsingham Magna, and a weekly market on Friday, in the 35th of that king ; also of a weekly market in Walsingham Parva on Monday, and a fair, formerly granted to the prior of Walsingham, on whose death it came to the aforesaid earl,

Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, was lord in the 14th of Edward I. and had many royal privileges. After his death it came to Lionel duke of Clarence, third son of Edward III. by his marriage with Elizabeth daughter and heir of William de Burgh, earl of Ulster in Ireland, son and heir of John de Burgh, earl of Ulster, by the lady Elizabeth his wife, third sister and co-heir of Gilbert earl of Clare, Gloucester, &c.

The said Lionel duke of Clarence, dying in the 42d of Edward III. left Philippa, his only daughter and heir ; and on her marriage with Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, he became lord in her right. On the death of Edmund, the last earl of March, in the 3d of Henry VI. Ann, his sister and heir, being wife of Richard de Coninsby, earl of Cambridge, Richard their son, duke of York, was lord, and his son, Edward IV. inherited it.

Elizabeth,

Elizabeth, queen consort to Henry VII. Ann, wife of Thomas Howard, earl of Surry; and Catherine, wife of William Courtney, earl of Devonshire, were daughters and co-heirs of the said king. Ann and Catherine conveyed their right to Henry VIII. and Edward VI. in his 7th year, July 1, granted them to Thomas Gresham, esq. Queen Mary confirmed it, April 9, in her 1st year, with the manors of Collingham, &c. the demesne lands in the tenure of Thomas Sidney, esq. &c. a market, and a fair on the nativity of the Virgin Mary, and a close planted with saffron, for which the town was famous at this time.\*

Sir Thomas Gresham, in the 16th of Elizabeth, granted to Edward Flowerdew, esq. an annuity out of it, payable for life, and sealed it with his crest, a grasshopper: (see the fane on the Royal Exchange in London, built by this sir Thomas) on his death his lady possessed it, and it came to her son, sir William Read, lord in the 16th of James I. and on his death, to his co-heirs, George lord Berkley, sir William Withipole, the earl and countess of Desmond.

In 1637, it was conveyed to Dr. John Warner, bishop of Rochester, a prelate famous for noble acts of charity, having in his life time bestowed upwards of 59,000l. to benevolent purposes, and was a great sufferer in the royal cause, during the usurpation. On his death it descended to his heir, John Lee-Warner, D. D. archdeacon and prebendary of Rochester, son of Thomas Lee, of London, gent. descended from the family of Lee, of Lee-hall in Shropshire, by Ann his wife, sister of the bishop, whose eldest son, Henry Lee-Warner, esq. was lord in 1680, and his nephew, Henry Lee-Warner, esq. (son

\* Parkin

(son of Mr. Warner, of Kensington, by a sister of sir James Howe, of Wiltshire, died lord on the 13th of December 1760, and by —, daughter of John Milles, esq. of Nackington, near Canterbury, left Henry Lee-Warner, esq. the present lord, who resides here. This gentleman has also considerable possessions in the counties of Wilts, Somerset, Lincoln and Kent.

After sir Thomas Gresham's death the manors of Collingham, Fenn, &c. were sold to Thomas Sidney, esq. and he died seised of the abbey of Walsingham, the perpetual curacies, and diverse lands, &c. late sir Thomas Gresham's, in Great and Little Walsingham, Houghton in the Vale, Hindringham, Wighton and Egmore, the rectory of Houghton, and disposal of the vicarage of ditto; and Henry Sidney, (afterwards sir Henry) was his son and heir, aged thirty years.

July 8, 1639, Robert Sidney, earl of Leicester, grants on condition, the manor of Ross in Houghton, and diverse lands, to sir Edward Leech, Henry English, and others; and on July 20, 1650, in pursuance of a decree in chancery, the said earl sells the manor of Ross, the rectory and vicarage, and lands in Houghton; the abbey of Walsingham, with the perpetual curacies of the three churches in Walsingham, and the rectorial and vicarial tithes, with all the lands late Thomas Sidney's, esq. to Henry Wynn, Edward English, and others.

And on July 3, 1666, there was a bargain and sale of the abbey, the manor of Ross, and all the above lands and livings in Walsingham and Houghton, from Henry Wynn and others, to Dr. John Lee, archdeacon of Rochester, for the use of bishop Warner.

Warner. The manors of Walsingham, and mills, were separated from the abbey, and remained so till 1756, when they were purchased, with divers lands, from Norbōne Berkley, lord Bottetourt, by Henry Lee-Warner, esq. who also purchased divers other lands in Walsingham and Houghton, and the manors of Gaunts and Gurneys in Houghton; and died, as before mentioned, in 1760, aged 72, and left the whole to his son, Henry Lee-Warner, esq. by will, who was also heir at law, and has built here an agreeable seat, on the scite of the priory.

The present Henry Lee-Warner, esq. says Mr. Parkin, intends to erect a monument in Walsingham church to the memory of his father, who died as abovementioned, and to his mother, who died in July, 1770, aged 73, and was also buried in a vault in this church.

Mr. Warner's grandfather and grandmother Lee, of Dane-John, near Canterbury, were buried here. She was daughter of sir George Howe, of Berwick St. Leonard's, in Wiltshire, and sister to sir James Howe, who devised his whole estate to Mr. Warner's father, by his will, who was also heir at law to him, in right of his mother, which estate also Mr. Warner now enjoys.

Bishop Warner, and the rest of the family, were buried at Rochester, where handsome monuments in that cathedral are erected to their memories.

Here were also in antient days several smaller lordships held of the earls of Clare.

The town gave name to the antient family of de Walsingham, from whom the great sir Francis Walsingham

singham, secretary of state in the reign of queen Elizabeth, is descended.

In the town of Old Walsingham were two churches, All Saints and St. Peter. The church of All Saints was a rectory, and was given, by deed *sans date*, to the church of St. Mary, of Little Walsingham.

On the appropriation of it, in 1280, a vicarage was settled. About 1360, the vicarage was also united to the appropriated rectory, and became a curacy.

Thomas Sidney, esq. of Little Walsingham, had a grant from Edward VI. of the rectories and churches of All Saints and St. Peter, and of St. Mary, lately belonging to the priory. Henry Lee-Warner, esq. is impropriator, and nominates the curates of the churches of Great and Little Walsingham.

The church of St. Peter, of Walsingham Magna, was a rectory.

The church of St. Mary, in Walsingham Parva, was a rectory, and is now a donative, or curacy.

The church is a regular pile, with a nave, north and south isle, and a chancel, covered with lead, and has a square tower, with a spire, five bells, and a clock.

In it hangs a brass branch for candles, the gift of John Portington, gent. in 1679: the font is of stone, with imagery work, and a wooden cover; carved on it, *Ex dono Jane Dominae Sidney, in pia  
mentis indicium.*

In

In the church are several grave-stones with brass plates, altar tombs and mural monuments, to the memory of principal inhabitants.

On the south side of the church, against the wall, is an emblematical remembrance for one Robert Anghish, with an arrow or dart, and a snake twisted round it; on one side of it is *E. R.* on the other, *xxxii.* and under it *1590*, setting forth the year of his death, in the reign of *Elizabeth, Rex.*

In the chancel is a curious brass stand, supported by four lions.

On a stately monument, with the effigies of two persons, “*Here lies in hope and expectation of the joyfull and desyred day of resurrection, &c. Sir Henry Sidney, Kt. descended from the stemme of Viscount Lisle, baron of Penhurst in Kent, lord chamberlyen to the queen's majesty, and governor of Flushing, &c. He died Nov. 2, 1612, aged 59 years.—Here also rests the body of Dame Jane his wife, daughter of Francis Jermy, of Brightwell in Suffolk, Esq; who died Aug. 8, 1638, aged 73 years.*”

Also the arms of Sidney, with his quarterings.

This lady Jane gave a close of four acres to the support of the minister or curate of this church for ever.

In this church were the arms of the earl of Clare and Gloucester, &c. impaling Burgh earl of Ulster, Mortimer earl of March, &c.

**WALSINGHAM PRIORY.** The widow lady of Ricoldie de Faverches, dwelling in Walsingham Parva, founded

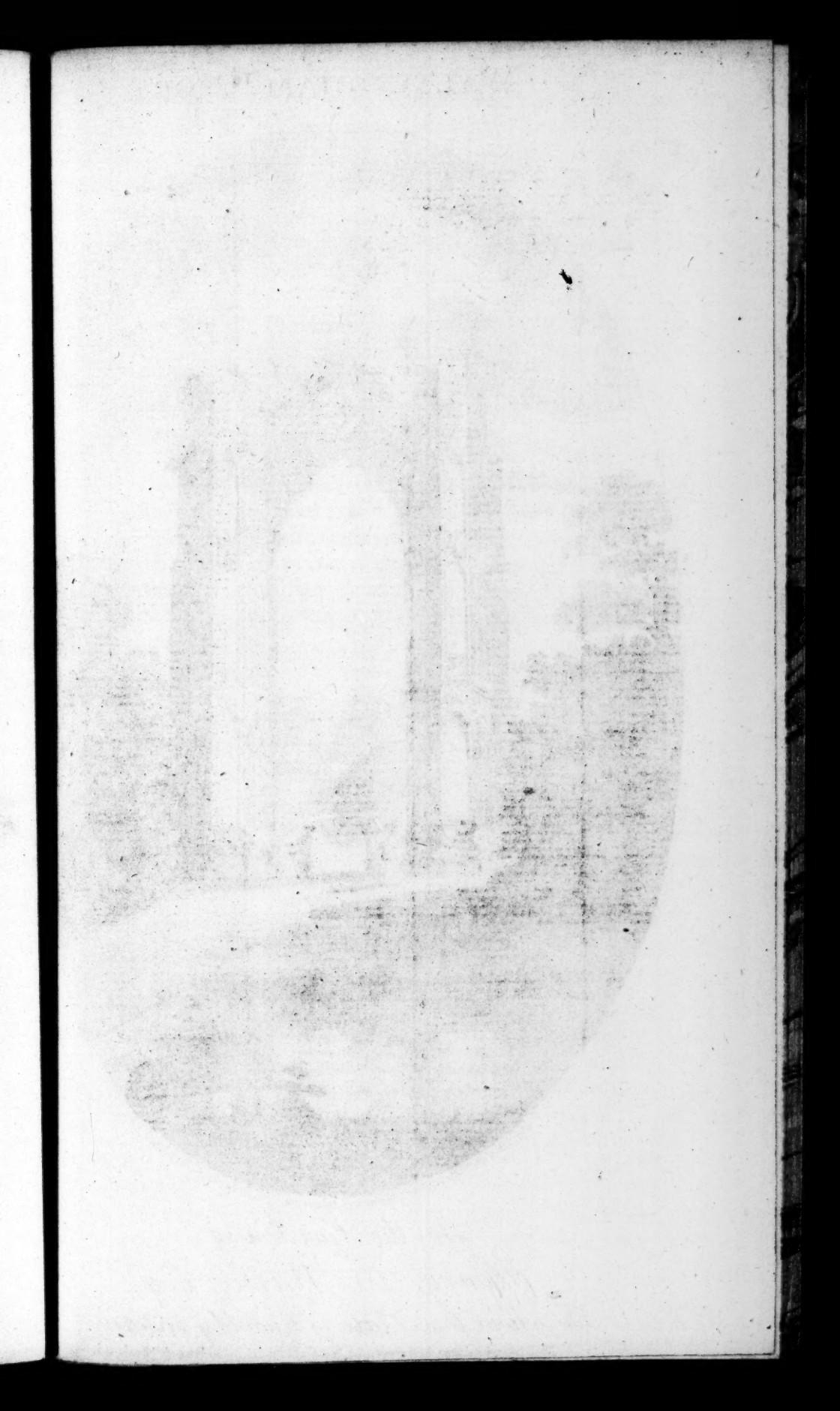
founded there, in or about 1061, a chapel in honor of the Virgin Mary, in all respects like to the *Sancta Casa* at Nazareth, where the Virgin was saluted by the angel Gabriel, on a vision of the Virgin enjoining her thereto; a pretence generally made use of in like foundations. Sir Jeffrey de Faverches, her son, soon after the conquest endowed it, granting to Edwin his clerk or chaplain, this chapel of St. Mary, with the church of All Saints in the said town, with its appurtenances in lands, &c. which the said Edwin possessed the day he went to Jerusalem.

The said knight seems to be the first founder of the priory, built the priory church, and gave the chapel of our Lady, all the ground within the scite of the church, eight acres of land, with 20*s.* rent per ann. out of his manor, if the yearly value of the offerings of our Lady did not exceed five marks, which grant was confirmed by Robert de Brucourt. and Roger earl of Clare.

This foundation, and part of this town, belonged to the king's manor.

Although a minute detail of the several grants made to this once famous priory may appear tedious and uninteresting to most readers, yet we are inclined, in this instance, to deviate from our intention of avoiding every relation approximating to the dull and fatiguing maze of church history. We shall, however, briefly mention the donatives thrown into this religious vortex, and which strongly marks the zeal, superstition and credulity of the times, since our welfare, not only in this, but in a future state, depended on our liberality to religious institutions.

William



# WALSINGHAM PRIORY.



*Engraved by T. Page. From a Drawing taken in the Camera by M. H. Rpton.*

*In the Garden of  
Henry Lee Warner Esq.  
To whom this Plate is humbly inscribed.*

*Published as the Act directs Nov: 18<sup>th</sup> 1770. by M. Booth, Norwich.*

William le Ken gave, in king John's time, a messuage, and thirty acres of land in Walsingham Magna and Wighton.

Damietta de Flitcham, and Emma de Beaufoe, gave lands in Flitcham, which was a cell belonging to this priory; William earl Warren, Roger de Stradset, and Nicholas his brother, with Simon de Shouldham, lands, &c. in Martham.

In the 10th of Henry III. the prior had a grant of a market and a fair; and on the marriage of that king's sister with the emperor, the prior paid five marks and had a *quietus*; and in the 35th of that king he had a confirmation of the manor of Little Walsingham, and a fair for eight days.

Roger earl of Clare confirmed the grant of All Saints church, and gave the mill; out of which sir Jeffrey de Faverches was to pay 20s. per ann. And Gilbert earl of Clare gave eight acres, &c. of land, and the ground without the west gate of the yard called the Common-place.

William de Valentia, brother to Henry III. gave 40s. in Walsingham, quit of all service and customs.

William de Longespee, earl of Salisbury, gave lands. Roger son of Ralph de Sall, lands in Sall. Hubert de Brisworth the third part of the advowson of St. Andrew's church in Burnham, and twenty-five acres of land in demesne, with meadow and pastures; also twelve acres held of him, and several homages and rents. John Marshall sixty acres in the wood of Foulsham, and two marks rent, with

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the church of Themilthorpe: and Richard de Burgh twelve acres in Foulsham.

Reginald and Stephen de Quarles, lands there. Sir John de Naiford, Richard de Witchingham, lands at Egmore. Godwin de Holkham, lands and a fold-course: and Ralph Hacon, of Holkham, lands there.

Sir Roger Colville, several homages in Wells. Bartholomew de Wighton a fold-course there, with lands. Nicholas Peche, the manor of Swifford in Swannington. Walter de Grandcourt, lands and common of pasture for fifteen sheep, four beasts, a hoise, &c. in Fulmondfiton. Adelina Baynard her lands and rents in Bintry. Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, the church of St. Andrew of Bedingham, and that of Oulton, with forty *nummatas terra*. William le Veutre, the church of St. Clement's of Burnham. Olivia le Marshal, all her rents, tenements, &c. that she purchased in Foulsham and Bintry.

Randolph earl of Chester and Lincoln, Hawis de Quincy his sister, and John de Somery, lands in Lincolnshire. Sir Ralph de Hemenhale conveyed his manor in North Creak, with a moiety of the advowson of the church. Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, gave lands to enlarge their court. Richard earl of Gloucester lands also; as did sir William de Clare, with liberty of common in both these towns; view of frank pledge, assize of bread and beer of their men, &c.

In the 21st of Edward I. the prior had temporalities and spiritualities to the value of 157l. 13s. 8d. per ann. And on June 6, in the 28th of that king.

a grant of free warren in this town, Holkham, Burnham, &c.

A patent was granted to them in the 2d of Edw. II. for acquiring lands and tenements to the value of 40l. per ann. and the said king, at the instance of his queen, Isabel, granted licence of mortmain to the value of forty marks per ann. and in part thereof, to appropriate the church of St. Peter in Walsingham Magna, the patronage of the priory being then, and long before, in the earls of Clare, &c. A licence to purchase Bedingham manor in Norfolk, in the 13th of Edward II.

In the 30th of Edward III. July 23, licence was given to the prior of Anglesey abbey, in Cambridgeshire, to grant to this priory fifty-seven acres of land, &c. and 34s. rent in Walsingham Magna and Parva; and in the said year the priory had a patent to purchase tenements here; and in the 40th of that king, one for tenements in Houghton, Egmore, and North Creak.

Sir Stephen de Hales, &c. aliened in the 8th of Richard II. the manors of Great and Little Rybrough, the advowson of Ryborough Magna church, with the manor of Pensthorpe, and lands in Warham, Snoring, West Basham, &c. to found a chantry for sir Thomas de Felton, &c.

Licence was granted in the 7th of Henry IV. to John Gourney and John Drew, parson of Harpley, to amortize twenty acres of land in Burnham, to celebrate the obit of sir Edmund de Reynham and Christian his wife; and in the said year to sir Thomas Erpingham, &c. to sell the manor of Swanton-Nowers, with that of Branches, in Wiveton, to this

priory, to celebrate their anniversaries ; and about the same time the prior is said to hold the fifth part of a fee of the earl of March.

In the 3d of Henry VI. the prior had a patent for the lordship of Egmere, and tenements in Walsingham, Wighton, Waterden, &c. and in the 28th of that king, their temporalities in Norfolk were taxed at 78l. 18s. and their spiritualities at 78l. 16s. 8d.

Richard duke of York, father of Edward IV. and patron of the priory, gave six acres and a rood of meadow, twenty-six acres of land, liberty of a fold, and messuages called the Lion, the Hoop, and the Star, and land in New Walsingham.

It appears that the prior had a mortuary or gift, of every parishioner in Walsingham, of the second best animal, and if there was but one, then of that. And in the 19th of Edward IV. in consideration that Henry Heydon, esq. had granted to them his lands and fold-course in Old Walsingham and Hindringham, they granted to him their lands, tenements, rents, &c. in Great Melton, Thursford, Barney, Woodton, and many other towns.

In the 30th of Henry III. a fine was levied between Thorold de Briton, of Witchingham, and Aveline his wife, and the prior of Walsingham, who had a grant of twenty-four acres of land, the services of several tenants, and 3s 8d. per ann.

At the dissolution of religious houses, this fell with the rest, in the 30th of Henry VIII. and was then valued, according to Dugdale, at 391l. 11s. 7d. or as Speed, at 446l. 14s. 4d. per ann.

It

It was dedicated to the annunciation of the Virgin Mary ; and the prior and canons were regulars of the order of St. Augustine.

Edwin, who was clerk or chaplain to sir Jeffrey de Faverches, founder of the priory, was the first prior.

Richard Vowel, prior of Leigh, and rector of Belcham in Essex, was the last prior. He, with Edmund Warham, the sub-prior ; William Rose, and nineteen other canons, subscribed to the king's supremacy, September 18, 1534 ; and on August 4, in the 30th of Henry VIII. he, by deed inrolled in chancery, surrendered this priory, with the cell of Flitcham, and all their possessions, to the king.

It appears that Sir Richard Southwell was one of the chief visitors at its dissolution, when six of the canons are said to have confessed themselves guilty of notorious incontinency ; and that great superstition and much forgery was found in their feigned, pretended relics and miracles.

Vowel, the prior, on the surrender had a pension for life of 100l. per ann. and all the canons that signed the surrender with him, had certain pensions for life.

I \* have seen a written note that says, in 1536,  
 " This yer was Ralf Rogers and George Gylborow,  
 " the sub-prior of Whalsyngham, with others, to  
 " the number of 15, condemned of treason, whereof  
 " 5 suffered."

The priory church was a grand edifice. The length of the nave from the west door to the great tower, or belfry, in the church, was seventy paces; the breadth of the nave, (excepting the two isles) was sixteen paces; the great tower, or bell-tower, was a square of sixteen paces; the length of the choir was fifty paces, and the breadth seventeen: besides this, there was a building, probably at the east end of the choir, of sixteen yards long and ten broad.

But the greatest beauty and glory of this priory was the chapel of the blessed Virgin, founded in honor of the Annunciation, which is said to have been about eight yards long and four yards and ten inches wide.

The remains of the building of the abbey, now standing, are a large portal or gate-house at the west entrance, quite entire; the east window of the chapel, a very fine and richly ornamented arch, upwards of sixty feet high, built in the reign of Henry VII. the old one being pulled down; the refectory or eating-house very entire, seventy-eight feet long, and twenty-seven broad; the walls twenty-six feet and an half high, the measures taken within side. A good west window, and stone pulpit in it; the whole building very entire, with an old very good roof upon it. †

Twelve columns, with entire Gothic arches, part of the old cloisters, built long before the last chapel.

The

† Euck, in his plate of it, published in 1738, and dedicated to Henry Lee-Warner, esq. has taken the roof off, in order to make it appear in the print *picturesque*.

The length of the cloister, which was four-square, was fifty-four paces. The length of the chapter-house twenty paces, the breadth ten.

The old abbey wall, near a mile in circuit, is yet very entire in most parts. A stone bath, with steps descending, and two uncovered wells, called "The wishing wells," are still perfect. 'Tis said, the devotees to the Lady of Walsingham were taught to believe, that whomsoever was permitted to drink of these waters, might obtain what they *then* wished for, *sans fee*.

Erasmus acquaints us that the chapel was a separate building from the priory church, and that it was not quite finished in his time: in this unfinished building there is, says he, "a small chapel, all of wood, on each side of which is a little narrow door, where those are admitted who came with their offerings and paid their devotions, and had no light but from the wax candles, the odour of which was delightful, and glittered with jewels, gold and silver, insomuch, that it seemed to be the seat of the Gods." — At the altar here, was a canon resident, who received and took care of the offerings.

So great was the fame of this idol or image of the Lady of Walsingham, that foreigners of all nations came on a pilgrimage to her, insomuch that the number of her devotees and worshippers, seemed to equal those of the Lady of Loretto in Italy; and the town of Little Walsingham owed its chief support and maintenance thereto.

Of the royal visitors, Henry III. appears to have paid his devotion to her, March 24, in his 26th year; his precept enjoining all who held lands in

*capite*, to meet him on the octaves of Easter, at Winchester, on an expedition into Gascoign, being dated *here*, as above.

Edward I. was here on January 8, in his 9th year, as appears by a patent dated *here*, for the repair of London bridge; and again in his 25th year, on the Purification of the Virgin. Edward II. was also here, October 6, in his 9th year.

In the 35th of Edward II. John de Montfort, duke of Britagne in France, came, and had the king's liberate to the treasurer and chamberlains of the Exchequer, to deliver gl. for the expences of his journey here, and back to London; and in the said year the duke of Anjou had licence to visit here, and the shrine of St. Thomas a Becket of Canterbury.

David Bruce, king of Scotland, had, in the 38th of the said king, a protection to come here, with thirty horse in his retinue; and his queen, Margaret, made a vow to visit also St. Thomas of Canterbury.

Isabel countess of Warwick, in 1439, bequeathed her tablet with the image of our Lady, to the church of Walsingham, which had a glass over it; also to the Lady there, her gown of alyz cloth of gold, with wide sleeves, and a tabernacle of silver like in the timbre to that of our Lady of Caversham.

Henry VII. mentions in his will, that he had ordered an image of silver, and gilt, to be made and offered up, and set before the Lady of Walsingham; and also a like image for St. Thomas of Canterbury.

Henry

Henry VIII. in his 2d year, soon after Christmas, rode here; and in the said year, May 14, as appears in a M. S. of payments, by the keeper of the privy seal, 6s. 8d. were then paid to Mr. Garneys, for the king's offering to her, and signed by the king's hand at Walsingham.

Queen Catherine his wife, during the king's absence in France, in his fifth year, came and returned thanks to the Lady, for the great victory over the Scots, at Floddonfield, Sept. 9, 1513.

Sir Henry Spelman says, that when he was a youth it was commonly reported, that Henry VIII. walked barefoot from the town of Basham to the chapel of the Lady, and presented her with a necklace of very great value, "with a view, perhaps, says Spelman, to moderate the resentment of the Virgin, when he thought fit, as he did soon after, to banish her from her monastery, and to pull it down: for he was so sensible of her wonderful goodness, how ready she was to remember small favours, and godlike to forget great injuries, that, on his death-bed he bequeathed his soul to her; which, whether his executors disposed of strictly according to his will and testament, is not a point altogether certain, because they fulfilled it in no other article that I know of."

Queen Catherine, in her will, desires that five hundred masses should be said for her soul, and that a person should make a pilgrimage to our Lady at Walsingham, and distribute two hundred nobles in charity upon the road.\*

Sq

\* Smollet's Hist. vol. v. page 31.

So superstitious, so weak and credulous were the commonalty, that they believed (as they were then imposed upon and taught) the Galaxias, or (what is called in the sky) the Milky-Way, was appointed by Providence to point out the particular place and residence of the Virgin, beyond all other places, and was, on that account, generally in that age, called Walsingham-Way ; and I have heard old people of this country, so to call and distinguish it some years past.\*

Among the many miracles, &c. that were ascribed to her, we cannot pass by one :—On the north side, at which you enter the close of this priory, was a very low and narrow wicket door, through which it was difficult for any one to pass on foot, being, as an old M.S. says, “ Not past an elne hye, and three quarters in bredd : ” And a certain Norfolk knight, sir Ralph Boutetourt, armed cap-a-pee, and on horseback, being pursued by a cruel enemy, and in the utmost danger of being taken, made full speed for this gate, and invoking this Lady for his deliverance, he immediately found himself and his horse within the close and sanctuary of the priory, in a safe asylum, and so foiled his enemy. This is said to have happened, 1314.

A memorial of this miracle was engraven on a plate of copper, whereon was the effigies of the knight, his horse, &c. and nailed on the gate of the priory, and was seen by Erasmus ; who also observes, that there was preserved one joint of a finger of St. Peter, as large as that of the Colossus at Rhodes, &c.

But

\* Parkin.

But this so famous image of the Lady, was in the 30th of Henry VIII. brought by the lord high chamberlain Cromwell to Chelsea by London, and there publicly burnt.

The seal of the priory was on the one side, the effigies of the Virgin seated, and the child Jesus in her arms ; on the reverse the front or west end of the priory church.

The offerings to this Lady, one year, amounted to 26*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*

The scite of this priory, &c. was sold by Henry VIII. for 9*l.* to Thomas Sidney, gent. of Walsingham Parva : the grant is dated November 7, *ao.* 31, and he died seised of it in 1544.

This Sidney, as sir Henry Spelman relates, was governor of the Spittal in this town, and employed by the townsmen to buy the scite of the priory for the use of the town, but obtained and kept it to himself. He was brother to Nicholas Sidney, ancestor to the earls of Leicester.

Thomas Sidney, esq. son and heir of Thomas aforesaid, possessed it on his father's death; was customer of Lynn, and left by Barbara his wife, sister of the great sir Francis Walsingham, two sons : Thomas, the eldest, married Mary daughter of sir Robert Southwell, and dying without issue, sir Henry Sidney, knt. his brother, succeeded, and married Jane daughter of Francis Jeremy, esq. of Brightwell in Suffolk, and having no children, gave it to Robert Sidney, earl of Leicester, who afterwards disposed of it.

GREY

GREY FRIERS. In this town of Walsingham Parva, was also an house or priory of Grey Friars, or Friars Minors, or rather Carmelites, founded by the lady Elizabeth de Burgh, countess of Clare, who had a patent for it in the 21st of Edward III. by leave obtained from the pope.

The prior and convent of the canons here, petitioned that lady against this foundation, as their patroness, and exhibited several reasons :

First, that the parish churches would lose so much *tithe* as would be within the walls of the house that was to be built.

Secondly, the parishioners would neglect the parish churches, go to their oratory, hear mass, and make their offerings, &c. there.

Thirdly, that the goods of the present priory and canons would not keep them half a year, much less if any other order should come into the town ; and whereas this order proposes to give caution that they will not prejudice the present priory ; no caution can be taken, for they are to have no lands, nor goods, by virtue of their rule ; or can or ought to procure any new habitation without the pope's leave, under pain of excommunication ; and they have places enough already hereabouts, viz. at Burnham on one side, and at Sniterley (alias Blakeney) on the other side, &c.

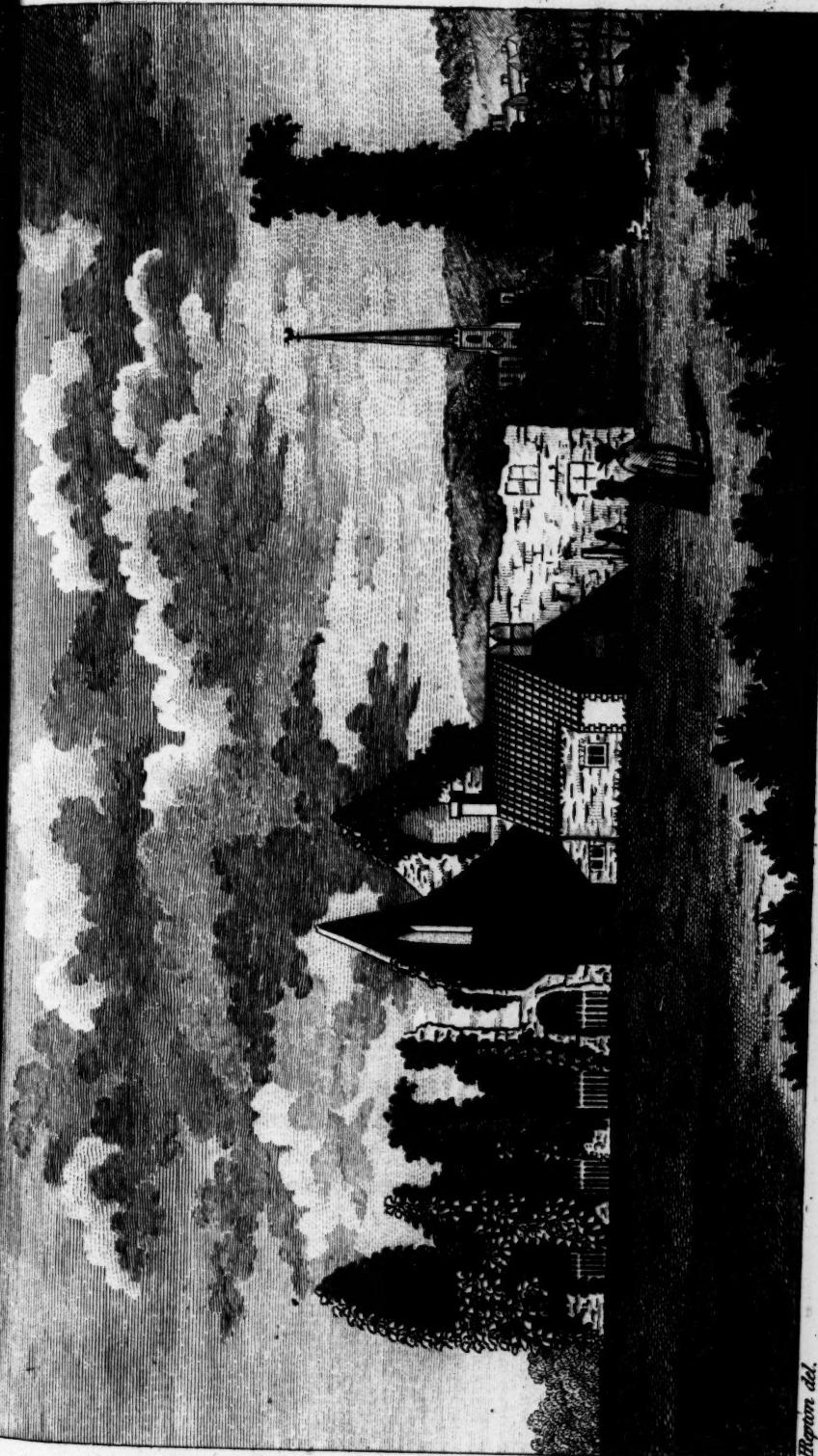
In the 8th of Richard II. they had a grant for turning the way leading from North Walsham, and inclosing it, to enlarge their manse.

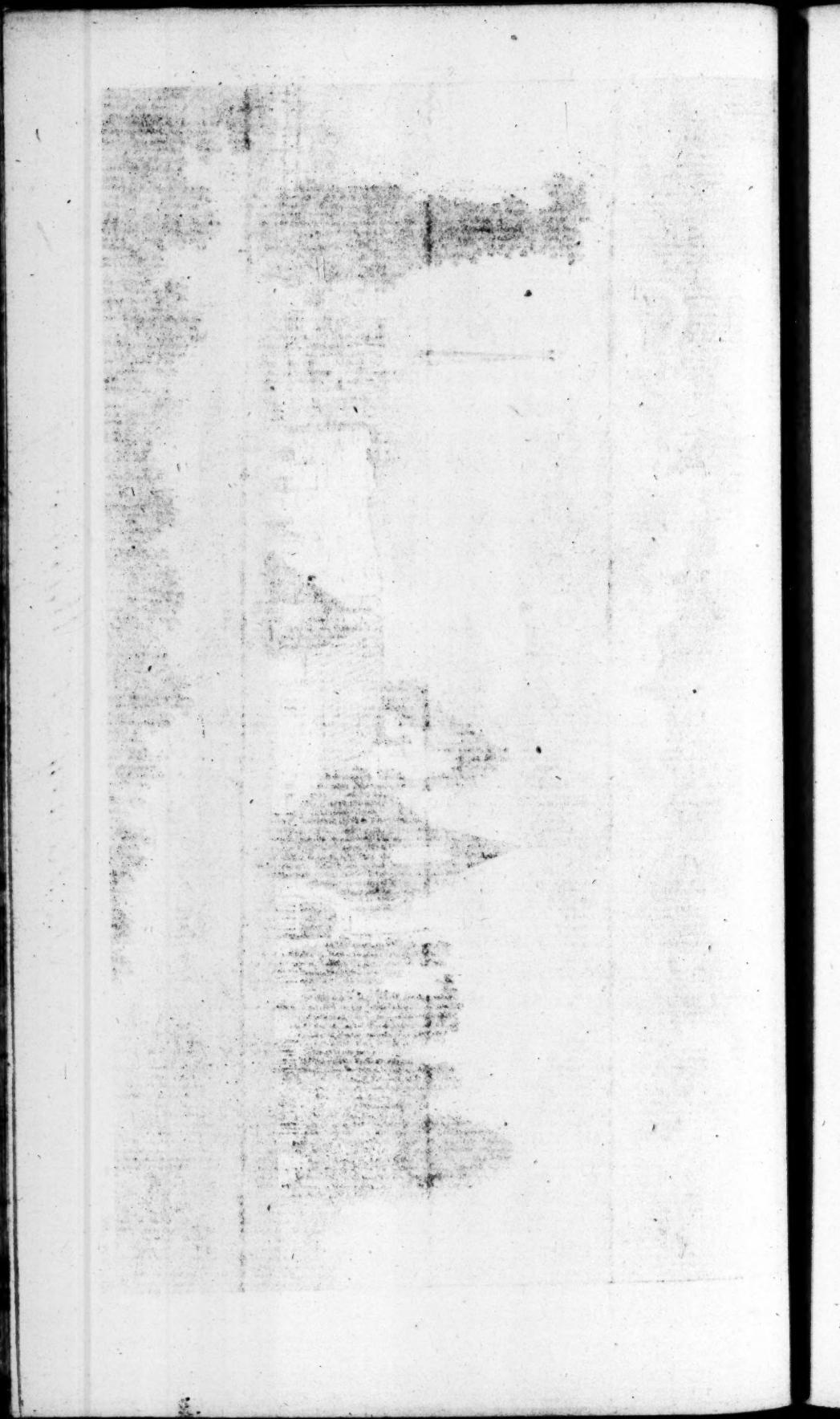
In

Page 114.

To Henry Lee Warner, Esq.

Rogers del.





In the reign of Henry VI. Richard duke of York, their patron, aliened to them a messuage, three acres of land, a garden, four tenements, &c.

Robert Grey, of Walsingham, gave by will, in 1514, to the friars, two pair of censors of silver, of ten marks value each.

Robert Pigot, buried here 1491, gives 6s. 8d. for his burial, 6s. 8d. to pray for his soul, and 6s. 8d. for a breakfast.

The scite of this house was granted to John Eyer, esq. February 20, in the 36th of Henry VIII. then in the tenure of Roger Townshend and Thomas Sidney, valued at its dissolution at 3l. per ann. and in or near to it was a lady anchoréss in 1526, &c.

The church of this friery is said to have been fifty-four paces long, and thirty-two broad; and the length and breadth of the great tower in the middle of it, ten paces.

The free-school in New Walsingham is said to be founded by one Bond, who settled 43l. per ann. on the master, &c. Robert Baxter, at Aylsham, by his will, dated April 2, 1572, seems to be a benefactor.

The bridewell was antiently a spittal-house: we find it mentioned in 1486; and in 1491, Robert Pigot, by his will, dated September 13, gives his messuages, called the Spittal-houses, with the lands, &c. thereto belonging, in Walsingham and Houghton, to Robert Godfrey, of Walsingham, and others.

In 1675, by an account then taken of those in this town who were above sixteen years, the number is said to have been five hundred and three.

This town gave title to the late lady Melosina de Schulemburgh, created by George I. countess of Walsingham, April 10, 1722.

**WARHAM**, so called from its scite by a river, and a watry place or ham ; thus Warham in Dorsetshire, Ware in Hertfordshire, &c.\*

It was held of Gert, a younger son of the great earl Godwyn, brother to king Harold, slain with him at the battle of Hastings ; and on his death granted to Walter Giffard, created earl of Buckingham by the Conqueror.

In this town was a manor, &c. belonging to the lordship of Wells, held by Aldit at the survey.

**WARHAM-HALL MANOR.** How long Aldit enjoyed it does not appear : it is probable it came soon after to Walter Giffard, earl of Bucks, who dying without issue, Richard de Clare, earl of Hertford, &c. (descended from Rohais sister and co-heir of the said Walter, who married Richard Fitz Gilbert, alias de Clare) ancestor of the earls of Hertford and Clare, &c. inherited the same in the reign of Richard I.

In the 32d of Henry III. Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, granted to his brother, William de Clare, this lordship, with that of Wells, &c. and in the 35th of that king, the abbot of Fontenoy in Normandy, had the advowson of the church in

\* Parkin.

in exchange for Wells. He is said to be poisoned in the second of the said reign, and on his death, this united manor came to his brother Richard.

Gilbert earl of Clare and Gloucester, being slain at Bannockiburn in Scotland, in the 7th of Edward II. his inheritance was divided between his three sisters and co-heirs : 1. Margaret, the wife of Piers de Graveston, (king Edward's great favourite) re-married to Hugh de Audley, earl of Gloucester ; 2. Alianore, the wife of Hugh le Despencer, jun. and 3. Elizabeth, wife of John de Burgh, son and heir of Richard earl of Ulster, in Ireland : and in 1328, William le Zouche, lord of Glamorgan, presented to the church of All Saints in this town, as lord in right of Alianore his wife, late the wife of Hugh le Despencer, the younger : and in 1341, Hugh le Despencer, lord Glamorgan, presented.

Thomas lord Despencer, earl of Gloucester, dying in the 1st of Henry IV. left Richard, his son, who dying without issue in 1414, Isabel, his sister and heir, brought this manor and advowson, to Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick.

Henry Beauchamp, duke of Warwick, left it to his daughter and heir Ann, who dying s. p. a minor, it came in the 27th of Henry VI. to her aunt and heir, Ann, the wife of Richard Nevill, earl of Warwick, slain at Barnet field.

His inheritance being settled on his two daughters, Isabel and Ann, by parliament, Isabel, wife of George duke of Clarence, and Ann, of Richard duke of Gloucester, (afterwards king of England) who possessed this ; and on his death, Henry VII. restored this lordship, &c. to Ann, the countess dowager

dowager of Warwick, who conveyed it, &c. to the said king, from whom it descended to Henry VIII.

It afterwards was in the Howards family, and Thomas Howard, earl of Surry, in the 2d year of James I. aliened it to Edmund D'Oyly, esq. on April 2; from the D'Oylies it came to the Berneys, and so to the Turners: Sir John Turner, bart. being the present lord.

**NORTH-HALL MANOR.** This part of the town, and part of Wells belonged to the king's manor of Wighton.

The king had also in Warham lands, &c. belonging to his manor of Holt.

This lordship Henry I. granted to Robert son of Ernius, whose son Eudo held it, and Robert, Eudo's son, rebelling against king John, he, by letters patent dated September 15, in his 10th year, gave it to Jeffrey Fitz-Piers, earl of Essex, with lands in Wells and Massingham, &c. forfeited by the statute *De terris Nor-mannorum*, whose sons Jeffrey and William de Magnavile, both earls of Essex, by his first wife, inherited and held it of the honour of Gloucester.

On their demises s. p. it came to John Fitz-John, descended by a second wife from the aforesaid Jeffrey Fitz-Peter, who held it in the 4th of Edward I.

Richard Fitz-John enjoyed on his brother's death, being a baron of the realm, and granted it in the 6th of Edward I. to sir Thomas de Weyland, and his estate being confiscated, &c. it came to the crown,

crown, and remained till Edward II. gave it to sir Walter de Norwich in fee-farm, by deed, dated at Windsor, November 22, A<sup>o</sup>. 11.

On the death of sir John, it descended to Catherine Brews, a nun, at Dartford, in Kent, who held it in the 1st of Richard II. and by her trustees it seems to have been conveyed some years after to sir Robert Knowles, William Calthorpe, jun. &c. who held it in the 3d of Henry IV.

Thomas Stede, by his will dated December 20, 1501, bequeaths to Thomas his son and heir, the manor of North-hall, and William, his brother, died lord, in 1540, and was buried, as was his father, Thomas, at Warham.

The D'Oylys seem to inherit it from the Stedes, and quarter their arms, argent, a lion rampant, azure, and so is now united to the other manors of the D'Oylys.\*

The bishop of Norwich's lordship of Hindringham extended into this town at the survey.

Alan earl of Richmond had also a lordship in this town.

At the survey, Odo bishop of Baieux, in France, the Conqueror's half brother, had two sokemen, with half a carucate of land: this, on Odo's rebellion against William II. came probably to the aforesaid Alan earl of Richmond.

\* See the Baronetage of England.

**HALES' MANOR.** Ribald, who held this manor under Alan earl of Richmond, was his brother, and lord of Middleham in Yorkshire.

In the 18th of king John, Robert Nugun conveyed to Bartholomew de Wighton, the advowson of the church of St. Mary Magdalen in this town; and in the 24th of Henry III. Bartholomew sold lands here to William de Boton and Agnes his wife, and was then patron of the aforesaid church.

In the reign of Richard II. sir Stephen de Hales held it, who dying s. p. Elizabeth, daughter and heir of his brother Thomas Hales, brought it by marriage to William Rokewode, sen. and so to William Rokewode, esq. his son, by whose daughter and co-heir Agnes, it came to sir Nicholas Appleyard, whose descendant John Appleyard, esq. in the 3d and 4th of Philip and Mary, passed this manor of Warham-Hales, &c. with a fold course in this town, Wells, &c. and the advowson of the church of Warham, to Ralph Symonds, esq.

After this it was in the D'Oyllys of Shottisham, and Henry D'Oyly, esq. died lord in 1597, and Edmund D'Oyly, esq. died possessed of the manor of Warham-Hales, Warham North-Hall, and Warham manors, in 1610.

Sir William D'Oyly, bart. was lord in the reign of Charles II. and alienated this with much of his patrimony.

Richard Berney, esq. possessed it in the reign of William III. and by a decree in chancery in 1709, it was ordered to be sold, and was purchased by Sir Charles Turner.

Sir

Sir Charles was descended from Charles Turner, gent. of Whissonset, in Launditch hundred, who had by Elizabeth, his wife, two sons. 1. Sir John Turner, of Lynn; 2. William Turner, esq. of North Elmham. Sir John died s. p. and William marrying Ann, daughter of John Spooner, of North Elmham, was father of sir Charles Turner, bart. of Warham aforesaid.

Sir Charles married first, Ann, daughter of Robert Walpole, esq. of Houghton, in Norfolk, (sister of Robert, earl of Orford) and was created a baronet April 27, 1727, by George I. His second wife was Mary, daughter of sir William Blois, of Grundesburgh in Suffolk, relict of sir Nevil Catlyn, of Kirby-Cane in Norfolk: he was member of parliament for Lynn, and a teller of the exchequer, and on November 22, 1738, dying without heir male, was succeeded in estate by his brother, Sir John Turner, bart. collector of Lynn, who died 1739, and by his wife, daughter of —— Allen, of London, left sir John Turner, bart. his son, the present lord of this town, and late member of parliament for Lynn. Sir John served the office of mayor twice, and represented this antient borough many years, with the strictest attention to the interests of the trade and prosperity of the nation: And, considered as a magistrate and man of business, was certainly one of the most useful members of the House of Commons.

He married Miss Neal, daughter of Robert Neal, esq. formerly member of parliament for Wootton Bassett, in Wiltshire, by whom he has two daughters, one, lady of sir M. B. Folkes, bart. of Hillington, and the elder, married to Robert Hales, esq. collector of the customs at Lynn.

"Warham," says Mr. Arthur Young, "the seat of sir John Turner, the situation of which is the most beautiful in Norfolk, and as much worth viewing as half the houses to which travellers are so eager to run. The house stands on the brow of a gently rising hill, backed to the north with very fine plantations of fifty years growth. They have somewhat the appearance of a crescent form, sheltering from the north, east, and west, and opening to the south, down over a beautiful winding vale, and then commanding a rich varied prospect of distant inclosures. Some villages and churches, scattered about the view, and a large, though regular, water in the valley, all tend to make it cheerful, while the thick woods which crown the tops of several hills, and the groves that sink into the vale, throw a picturesque beauty over the scene, that cannot fail to strike the spectator."

The plantations, which extend to Holkham park, and the other useful and ornamental improvements made by sir John, do him much honor; whether considered as a general benefit to the country, or locally as a proof of his taste and judgment.

To the south of the town, and near the river are the remains of a large Danish camp of three intrenchments, more perfect than any other in the county; but this may be attributed chiefly, to its having been for many years in the possession of a gentleman whose veneration for antiquity preserves it from the ravage of an ignorant tenant, who would either level it by the plow, or rob it of materials to mend roads, &c. to avoid which he has taken it into his own hands. The form of the works are circular, and consist of an inner and outer circum-vallation,

vallation, with ditches intervening. The ramparts are thirty feet high, and the principal entrance seems to have been from the east. The whole comprehends nine acres, and the lands about it are called "The Burroughs;" but what is the most indisputable evidence of its origin and use, is, that the low grounds which were formerly a morass in front of the camp are still called, by the people, and in old writings, "Sweno Meadow," from Swain, the noble Dane,

The windmill south of this, in Wighton parish, stands on the corner of a similar entrenchment, much defaced; and opposite to it, where Crabs-castle, a farm-house, now stands, was another of the same form and extent.

Here were three churches—All Saints—St. Mary—and St. Mary Magdalen. All Saints is a rectory, and is in the patronage of the king. The church of St. Mary Magdalen is also a rectory, and consolidated with that of St. Mary the Virgin, November 12, 1730.

The Rev. James Robinson, rector of Wells, was presented to the rectory of Warham All Saints, 1762, by the crown.

The Rev. Robert Goodwyn was presented to the rectory of St. Mary Magdalen, with St. Mary the Virgin, 1749, by Sir John Turner, bart.

In this town was also a chapel, with its cemetery, or yard, which before the dissolution belonged to the nunnery of Bradholme, and being ruinous was granted June 11, in the 5th of Elizabeth, to Cecilia Pykerell, of Norwich, widow, which she,

the day following, conveyed to Nicholas Mynne, of Basham, esq.

WELLS, called in the grand survey, Guella, as seated on a rivulet, near the great British ocean : Guy, Qui and Wy, are British words, and many rivers which bear these names.\* The Conqueror gave the principal lordship here to Aldit, and it was the only one that he possessed in this county : it extended into Warham.

STAFFORD'S MANOR. How long Aldit possessed it does not appear ; after him the Giffards, earls of Bucks, were lords of it, from whom it came to the earls of Clare, with Warham-hall manor.

In the 14th of Edward I. Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, &c. claimed wreck of sea, and it was found, that if a ship was in danger of a wreck, none of the men of Wells, Holkham, &c. dared to help, for fear of the earl of Gloucester's bailiff ; that if the ship was broke, and all the men drowned, the earl had all the goods, but if a dog was left alive, then only a moiety ; and that the earl had a court in North Greenhoe hundred, in which if any one was injured, it was difficult to have any remedy.

On the death of Gilbert de Clare, in the 7th of Edward II. his estate being divided between his three sisters and co-heirs, this lordship came to Margaret, who married first, Piers de Gaveston, (the king's great favourite) and after, Hugh de Audley, who in her right was lord of this town, and earl of Gloucester ; and on his death, in the 21st of Edw. III. it descended to his only daughter, Margaret, wife of Ralph lord Stafford.

In

\* Parkin.

In this family it continued till the attainder of Edward Stafford, duke of Bucks, who was beheaded May 13, 1521; and on July 12, in the 14th of Henry VIII. it was granted to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, and so remained in that family till the attainder and death of the duke of Norfolk, in 1572.

James I. in the beginning of his reign, gave it to Henry Howard, earl of Northampton, and in 1626, Thomas Howard, earl of Arundel and Surry, was lord.

In the 13th of Charles II. John Dix, alias Ramsey, of Wickmere in Norfolk, heir to his uncle, John Dix, deceased, (a trustee for Thomas, late earl of Arundel) being seised of it, for the payment of that earl's debts, granted and released it to sir William Playters, of Satterley in Suffolk, bart. and sir Richard Onslow, of West Clendon in Surry, knt.

After this, it was possessed by Thomas lord Astley, and by him sold to admiral sir Cloudesley Shovell, and so passed to sir Charles Turner, bart. whose nephew, sir John Turner, is the present lord.

**NORMAN'S MANOR.** This part of the town was a beruite to the Conqueror's lordship of Wighton, and seems to have remained in the crown till Henry I. who granted it to Robert son of Ernisius; and being afterwards forfeited to the crown, was granted to Jeffrey Fitz Piers, earl of Essex, with North-hall manor in Warham.

In the 36th of Henry VIII. Ralph Symonds died possessed of it. From the Symonds's it came to Edward Clerk, gent. and after to Mr. Curtis, merchant, of Wells.

At the survey the Conqueror had also a lordship of which Godric was his bailiff, or steward.

This fee seems to have been in the earls of Clare, and so united to the capital manor of Stafford.

Alan earl of Richmond had also a lordship here and in Warham.

Roger lord Valoins, son of Peter, who founded the priory of Binham, gave to that priory all the lands of his fee here; as did many other proprietors of lands in this parish, all which at the dissolution, were granted, Nov. 15, in the 33d of Henry VIII, to sir Thomas Paston.

In the reign of James I. it was in the hands of Edmund D'Oyly, of Shottisham, esq. and sir Clodesley Shovell had it about 1700; afterwards sir Charles Turner, bart. and now sir John Turner, of Warham.

The church, which is a rectory, dedicated to All Saints, is a regular pile, built of flint and other stone, as most churches are in Norfolk; consisting of a nave, north and south isle, with a chancel, covered with lead, and a four-square tower, with six bells.

Over the south door in the church, the history of the flood is painted, and over the north door that of Jonas.

On a grave-stone near the communion table, is the portraiture of a priest, in bras: On two labels — *Jesu mercy*; — *Lady help*; — and *Orate p. a'i'a. Tho-*

*me*

*me Bradley qui quondam fuit rector ecclie de Wellys, et  
qui fuit p'bandarius ecclie de Plesy, Oct. 5. 1499.*

Over the vestry door, on the north wall, a little tablet of marble, with the arms of Murray, azure, three mullets, argent, in a double tressure of Scotland—*Lector, hoc est monumentum Kentigerni Moravi, theolog. philosoph. astronom. ingenio felici et exculto, et vita integerrima; qui inter Scotos oriundus, antiqua Moravorum familia liberalium artium cognitione animum Andreopoli in Leonardino collegio induit, et ibidem p. undecem annos philosophiae professione nobilibus undiq; juvenibus frequentata optimam bonae mentis culturam auxit et probavit, omnibus. Exinde in Angliam commigrans, alieno solo degens, indigena est habitus, nam hic annor. triginta duor. sacro defunctus ministerio, pastor gregis amantissimus, eiq; suo merito charissimus mysta, symmiftis conjunctissimus; desideratus obt. moriens collegio Leonardino lectissimis multis instruclam libris suam legavit bibliothecam, nostrorum pauperum inopiam redditu sublevavit, annus, et successoram suor. commodis manifice prosperit.*

In the east window were the arms of lord Stafford, or, a chevron, gules, impaling those of Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester; also Stafford and Nevill—and argent, three lioncells passant, in pale,

On a grave-stone erected in the church yard to the memory of William Wells, obit Aug. 2, 1744.

*Though winds and waves have tost me to and fro,  
By God's decree I harbour here below;  
Where I do ride with many of our fleet,  
Ready to sail our Admiral Christ to meet.*

There

There is a brass eagle, for the Bible, and to read the lessons : also a gallery and pews handsomely fitted up.

The Rev. Mr. James Robinson was presented to this rectory by his father, Mr. James Robinson, in 1755, who afterwards conveyed the patronage to a gentleman at Bristol.

The town of Wells is situated on a rising ground, at the upper end of a spacious harbour, which runs through the salt-marshes into the British ocean, one mile below the town.

The improvement of this harbour is likely to become a subject of litigation, between the lord of the manor and merchants trading to and from the port ; we shall, therefore, only remark, that the business done here is very great, especially in corn and malt exported from this town.

The import of coals from Newcastle and Sunderland, here and at Blakeney, supply most of the northern hundreds in Norfolk, and are conveyed by land carriage as far up the country as East Dereham, and the average price is from twenty-three to twenty-seven shillings per chaldron at the quay. The harbour is extremely difficult of access, and a north, or north-east wind, often proves fatal to the shipping off its mouth : besides, as there is no current to carry off the silt which every tide brings up and leaves in the creek, but a reservoir kept in the marshes, as a back water to scour the channel, the haven and navigation is in a precarious state. The importation of wine and merchandise is also very considerable.

Wells

Wells has no weekly market, or fair. It is distant from Norwich thirty-one miles, Holt twelve, Walsingham five, Fakenham ten, Burnham six, Lynn twenty-six. Nothing else worth notice occurs, excepting a singular instance of female prowess.—

"Elizabeth Clayton, near forty years of age, from an early propensity towards masculine employments, has continued to dress and work in the capacity of a ship-carpen-ter for many years. She drinks, swears, chews tobacco, and keeps company only with the workmen. She is a strong and healthy person, and will employ her tongue, or fist, as much to the danger of an opponent as the boldest man. She earns nine shillings per week, and, as yet, has not been prevailed on to enter into the matrimonial state." The gentleman who gave us this anecdote saw her, Dec. 10, 1778.

The great booterd plant has been found near Wells.

**WIGHTON.** It appears from Doomsday-book, that the royalty of this lordship was then in the crown, and had been possessed by Edward the Confessor, in whose time it extended into several towns.

Henry II. as lord and patron, gave this church (by the name of Witchtune) to the cathedral church of the Holy Trinity of Norwich, for the health of his own soul, his father Geffrey's, and his mother Maud's, and his grandfather's Henry I. &c.

Soon after this William de Kaion, or Ken, had a grant of this lordship, to be held of the crown by one fee: this William gave to the said church of Norwich, all the right and jurisdiction, which he  
had

had in the lands belonging to them, as lord of North Greenhoe hundred, and this town.

In the 29th of Henry III. Philip de Albiny was lord, on a grant from that king, being forfeited by Ken, who is styled the Norman, and a rebel.

In the 1st of Edward I. it was found that William de Ken had sold considerable part of the demeans, and in his 15th year, Joan de Bernake, widow of Jeffrey de Lysignan, had an interest herein, and held the same as guardian to her son Jeffrey, who, in the 1st of Edward II. had enfeoffed Richard de Walsingham of 200 acres of land, &c. in this manor,

Drogo de Merlaw, nephew and heir to Jeffrey, gave 100l. relief for these, and the manor of Paunton, in Lincolnshire, &c. on whose death in the 11th of Edward II. they came to his two daughters and co-heirs; Joan, the wife of Ralph, earl of Ewe and Guynes, in France, and Margaret a minor,

Robert, earl of Ewe, and constable of France, who held this lordship with the hundred, taking part with Philip de Valois king of France, forfeited them, and being taken prisoner in the 19th of Edward III. at Caen, in Normandy, paid eighty thousand florins for his ransom.

In the following year, Philippa, queen of England, enjoyed them, as did sir Robert Knowles in the 45th of that king; and in the next year they were granted to John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, with the manor of Fakenham, on June 25, and so became part of the dutchy of Lancaster, and lodged in the crown.

In

In the 6th year of Charles I. Wighton was purchased by the city of London, for 1262l. 14s. 3d. the fee-farm rent to the crown being 45l. 1s. 11d. per ann. and the trustees for the city sold it to Humphrey Bedingfield, esq. whose grandfather, Christopher Bedingfield, esq. counsellor at law, died seised in 1750, leaving three daughters and co-heirs, and conveyed by them to the late earl of Leicester. Thomas William Coke, esq. of Holkham, is the present lord and patron.

The ancient family of the Geggs had a considerable estate here, which came by marriage, to the Bedingfields.

The hall, seat of the late Christopher Bedingfield, esq. is a good mansion on the summit near the church, with a plantation of full-grown trees to the north. On the gateway is a dial, *Redeeme your Time*, 1651. Much of this parish belongs to sir John Turner, of Warham, and the most beautiful view of his house and improvements adjoining, are from a road crossing the north end of the village of Wighton.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a large regular building, with a north and south isle, covered with lead, and a chancel, with a square tower, and four bells; was antiently a rectory in the gift of the crown.

The priories of Walsingham, Castleacre and Binham had lands here and tithes.

In the north isle is an altar tomb, of black and white marble, with the arms, quarterly, of Bacon, gules, on a chief, argent, two mullets, sable, in the first

first and fourth; and Quaplude, barry of six, or, and azur, over all a bend, gules, in the second and third, impaling cheque, argent and gules, on a bend engrailed, over all, sable, three lions passant, or.

*Elizabetha, D'nj Robt. Bacon de Egmore Baronettj, pia conjux una cum gemino fætu nuper edito, quem alterutra amplectens ulna secum huc tulit December 21, Ao, 1686, superflite adhuc prole natorum 4 filiarum 2.*

Here are also several mural monuments to the memory of the Bedingfields, of Wighton, with their arms, impaling those with whom they married.

On a pillar—*Humfredus Bedingfield, Christophori juxta positi, quarto genitus cum Abigaele ejus conjugi leclissima, corp. depositum, vicino reliquit marmore; prudens, justus, pius christiana charitate, vere liberatus, qui avita hereditate vindicata si non auæla, liberis probe institutis, maritus, pater, amicus, hospes, amantissimus, munificentissimus, familia, fama, et vel ipsa senectute fælix, obiit 19 die mensis Octob. Ao. salutis 1677, vixit annos 81.*

*In the grave of Frances Bedingfield, lyeth the body of Christopher Bedingfield, esq. eldest son of Humphrey Bedingfield: he married Lucy, the daughter of sir John Boys, of Bennington, in the county of Kent, kt. and left issue, Elizabeth, Lucy, Christopher, and Abigail: he departed this life in the 54th year of his age, May 10, 1686.*

In the middle isle, on the stone font, are several carvings or shields, relating to the crucifixion, and insignia of the Apostles.

In

In the chancel a gravestone—*In memory of Dorothy Jermy, late the wife of John Jermy, of Wighton, gent. deceased, from the antient stemme of Sulyard, of Fleming's-Hall, in Essex: she dyed October 29, 1651; with the arms of Jermy—argent, a lion rampant, guardant, gules, impaling argent, a chevron, gules, between three phæons sable, Sulyard.*

In the chancel north window, azure, three ducal coronets, or.

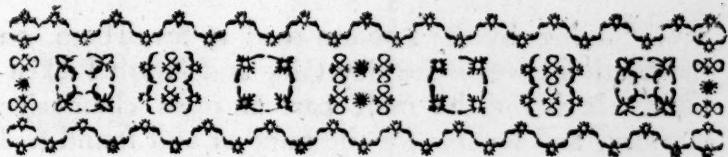
In the south window gules, three covered cups, argent, Argenton.—In another, St. Andrew, and his saltier—azure, three leopards faces, or, impaling Pakenham,—and the three kings heads of Cologn.

The Rev. Mr. Joseph Charles was presented to this vicarage by the dean and chapter of Norwich, in 1740.

There was formerly in this town a free chapel, called the chapel of Buttehaut, in the gift of the crown, with a portion of 5l. out of the rectory.







T H E  
H I S T O R Y  
O F  
N O R F O L K.



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Hundred of SOUTH GREENHOE.

HIS hundred is bounded on the south by the Wifsey, or Stoke river, which separates it from the hundred of Grimshoe; on the west by a rivulet that rises at Shingham and empties itself into the Wifsey a little above Stoke, from the hundred of Clackclose; on the north it joins to the hundreds of Freebridge Lynn and Launditch; and on the east, to those of Mitford and Weyland.

It is an hundred of a very large extent, and takes its name of Greenhoe from the green hills, or tumuli,

## HUNDRED OF

muli,\* lying by the London road to Swaffham, on the hath between Cockley Cley and North Pickenham. It is for the most part an open champaign country, and famous for the number and found feed of sheep, and is called South in respect to another hundred of the same name that lies in the north part of this county.

It was at the conquest the demesnes of the kings of England, and the king had then fourteen letes in it: from the crown it came to the Albinis, earls of Arundel, who also held the hundred of Launditch.

In the 23d of Edward I. Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, gave and granted to John son of John lord L'Estrange, of Litcham, all the lands which his father had and held of his fee, with the hundreds of South Greenhoe and Launditch, to be held by the said John and Clementia his wife; and in the 21st of Richard II. this hundred, with that of Launditch, was granted by that king to his uncle John duke of Lancaster; and in the next year, they were granted to Edmund of Langley, duke of York, with the manors of Mileham and Beeston, late part of the possessions of Richard earl of Arundel, attainted: but on the accession of Henry IV. to the crown, Thomas, son of the said Richard earl of Arundel, was restored in blood, and to his possessions, and on the 1st of September, in the 7th of Henry IV. the said Thomas earl of Arundel, by his deed dated at Arundel, gave and granted to Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, his uncle, sir Thomas Camoys, sir John Bohun, sir John Wiltshire, &c. the

\* Here very antiently, even to the last century, on these hills the hundred court was kept, as appears from its old rolls.

## S O U T H   G R E E N H O E.      3

the hundreds of South Greenhoe and Launditch, and they being seised of the same, granted them to Beatrice countess of Arundel, wife of the said Thomas, for life: and the said sir John Bohun, sir John Wiltshire, &c. in the 3d of Henry VI. gave the said hundreds to Henry earl of Northumberland, sir Ralph Cromwell, lord Cromwell, and John lord Scoop, to hold the same after the decease of the aforesaid Beatrice, to them and their heirs; and the said Beatrice dying, the aforesaid Henry earl of Northumberland, Ralph lord Cromwell, &c. granted the said hundreds in the 33d of Henry VI. to sir Thomas Tuddenham, knt. and his heirs, to have and to hold the same; by virtue of which grant the said sir Thomas was seised, and took the profits of the same during his life, and on his death, in 1461, Margaret Bedingfield, widow of Thomas Bedingfield, esq. sister and heir to the said sir Thomas Tuddenham, was lady of this hundred of South Greenhoe, and from her it descended to her grandson, sir Edmund Bedingfield, knight of the Bath, and sir Richard Bedingfield, esq. of Oxburgh, is the present lord.

This whole hundred is in the liberty of his grace the duke of Norfolk.

The number of votes in this hundred, polled at the great contested election for knights of the shire, March 23, 1768, between sir Armine Wodehouse, bart. Thomas de Grey, esq. sir Edward Astley, bart. and Wenman Coke, esq. were as follows:

	W. deG.	A.	C.
Bradenham, East and West	4	8	6
Cockley-Cley	0	0	5
Cressingham, Great and Little	9	10	0
Didlington	0	1	1
			Fouldon

## HUNDRED OF

			W.	deG.	A.	C.
Fouldon	-	-	5	6	1	0
Gooderstone	-	-	2	2	0	0
Hilburgh	-	-	4	4	0	0
Holm-Hale	-	-	5	5	2	2
Houghton on the Hill	-	-	1	1	0	0
Narburgh	-	-	0	2	2	0
Narfard	-	-	0	2	0	2
Neeton	-	-	6	6	2	2
Newton	-	-	0	0	2	2
Oxburgh	-	-	3	3	0	0
Pickenham, North and South	-	-	4	4	0	0
Sporle with Palgrave	-	-	4	4	1	1
Swaffham	-	-	23	31	8	13
			70	89	30	27

*Seats and principal houses in South Greenhoe.*

Bodney,	Francis Tasburgh, esq.
Bradenham, West	James Smyth, esq.
Cockley Cley,	John Richard Dashwood, esq.
Cressingham, Little	Earl Clermont.
Didlington,	Henry William Wilson, esq.
Hilburgh,	Ralph Cauldwell, esq.
Narburgh,	Sir Henry Peyton, bart.
Ditto,	Rev. Henry Spelman.
Narfard,	Briggs Price Fountain, esq.
Neeton,	William Mason, esq.
Pickenham, South	Thomas Lobb Chute, esq.
Swaffham,	Anthony Hammond, esq.

The eastern part of this hundred is a very good soil, and chiefly inclosed, and hath its share of wood; the western part is open, and a very poor barren

## SOUTH GREENHOE. 5

barren sandy soil, though now so much improved by marling and claying, that it often produces very good crops of corn. It is in extent from east to west about twelve miles, and from south to north, eleven; and contains twenty-four parish towns, all of which are in the deanry of Cranwick.

**BODNEY.** This is a depopulated village, and consists only of a manor-house, a farm-house adjoining, and a poor rectory-house, like a cottage, at the east end of the church-yard: it lies on the east side of a little rivulet that runs by Cressingham Magna, and thence southwards to this place.

In Doomsday-book it is wrote Bredeneia, and so takes its name from its scite, a dwelling or abode on the water.

This water, on the melting of a greal fall of snow, or heavy rains, is very dangerous, and to be cautiously avoided.

On the general dissolution of abbies, this manor came to the crown, and was given to the duke of Norfolk, who was lord in the 37th of Henry VIII. and in that year the said duke had licence to alienate it, with the appurtenances in Langford, Hilburgh, Cressingham Magna and Parva.

This manor came into possession of sir Edward Mostyn, bart. of Mostyn in Flintshire, and was sold by him to the family of sir John Tasburgh, of Flixton-hall in Suffolk, whose lineal descendant, Francis Tasburgh, esq. is the present lord: he married a sister of the late lord viscount Gage, of the kingdom of Ireland, who is deceased, but left no children.

The manor-house stands near the church, and is a large convenient old house, built of clunch, flone, &c. with good gardens and walks, adjoining to the river side.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary; it is a single pile of flint, pebble stones, &c. standing on a rising ground near the hall, in length about thirty-one feet, and eighteen in breadth; at the east end is the chancel, of equal elevation and breadth, and about twenty feet in length, and separated only from the body by an arch of stone. On the summit of the west gable is a small stone arch, wherein hangs the bell, the rope coming through the roof into the church, which bespeaks the antiquity of the church, being built (as is most likely) in the Saxon age, and the whole is covered with thatch.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 6l. 7s. 3d.

The patronage of this rectory, or perpetual curacy of Bodney, has been in the crown since the 19th of Elizabeth, 1571; and the Rev. Thomas Chamberlayne was presented by George III. in 1768, and holds it, consolidated with Great Cressingham, October 18, 1770.

**BRADENHAM, EAST.** This village lies at the north-east angle of the hundred, and adjoining to the hundred of Mitford. In the Conqueror's survey it is called Bradeham.

In the Confessor's time one Ailid, a Saxon lady, held it, but on the conquest it became the lordship of Ralph Bainard; it was half a mile and two furlongs

## SOUTH GREENHOE. 7

longs in length, and three furlongs in breadth; and was valued at the survey at 12l.

**EAST BRADENHAM MANOR.** In the reign of Henry II. this manor was parcel of the possessions of Saer de Quincy, earl of Winchester, who gave to the canons of Dunmow in Essex, a yearly rent of 10s. issuing out of this lordship: he no doubt held it under the lord Bainard, by which family the aforesaid abbey was founded.

There were long contests for this manor between the earls of Winchester and Lincoln, to whom it descended by marriage.

In the 2d of Edward II. 1274, Henry Lacy, earl of Lincoln, conveyed by fine this manor and advowson to Thomas, abbot of Bury, and to the convent, who was to receive the earl as a benefactor: this earl died on St. Agatha, the virgin, in 1310, in Chancery-lane, London, and was buried on the south side of the altar of St. Paul's, aged 60 years.

Afterwards, in the 9th of Edward II. the abbot of Bury, and the heir of William de Huntingfeld, are said to be lords of this town.

In the 3d of Henry IV. the abbot of Bury held this manor, and that of Huntingfeld's, being together one knight's fee, of the earl of Lincoln, that earl of the earl of Rutland in right of his wife, who held *in capite*, as parcel of his barony called Bainard, and in this abbey this manor and that of Huntingfeld's (now united) continued till the general dissolution, when the king seized it, and in the 35th of his reign granted the advowson of the church to Robert Hogan, to be held *in capite*, but the manor

was farmed of the crown by the said Robert Hogan, esq. and after in queen Elizabeth's time by Thomas Hogan, esq. for 34l. 13s. 4d. per ann. and in the 34th of the said queen, Henry Hogan, esq. was possessed in his own right, and made a jointure of the manor to Ann his wife, daughter of sir Henry Wodehouse, of Waxham, and dying in the said reign, left Robert his son, a minor, which Robert, at the instigation of his mother, who had him in ward, being near his full age, and in his sickness, of which he died, levied a fine in the 10th of James I. of his lands here, &c. part to the use of his mother, then the lady Cæsar, (being married to sir Julius Cæsar, of Bennington) concerning which there were great suits at law between this lady Cæsar, and his own sister, married to Mr. Day.

After this it was possessed by the Hungates, and was mortgaged and sold by Henry Hungate, esq. who died in 1668, and then by Mrs. Lucy Hungate; afterwards it came to Mr. Morris, whose niece being married to sir William Goultoun, of London, who presented to the church in 1683, brought it into that family. From sir William it descended to Maurice Goultoun, esq. who sold it to Edmund Beagn, esq.

It afterwards came into possession of Thomas Bridges, esq. whose widow Ann, (daughter of the late Richard Jackson, esq. of Weasenham) since married to rear-admiral Derby of the royal navy, is in present possession.

HUNTINGFELD HALL. Of the Huntingfelds we find that Roger, lord of the manor of Huntingfeld in Suffolk, soon after the conquest, assumed the name of his lordship, and left it to William de Huntingfeld

feld his son and heir, who founded Mendham priory in Suffolk, and died in 1155.

In the reign of Edward I. Roger de Huntingfeld was lord here, who was one of those noble peers that sent pope Boniface word that the kingdom of Scotland was not of his fee, and that he had no jurisdiction in temporal affairs over either of the kingdoms, which was subscribed at the parliament held at Lincoln.

From the lords Huntingfeld it came to the earls of Suffolk; from them to the abbey of Bury, and at the dissolution it was granted away by Hen. VIII. and has had the same lords with the other manor to which it was then united.

**HAMMOND'S MANOR.** In the reign of Richard II. William lord Bardolph, of Wormegay, had lands here.

It afterwards came to the Hammonds, and took its name from them; thence to the Hungates, and by one of that family was joined to the other manor, and so continues.

This village takes its name from *Brade*, which in Saxon signifies *Broad*, and *Ham*, a village; the houses lying scattered and dispersed about the common at this time.\*

In this town arises a spring, which making a little rivulet, passes by North and South Pickenham, Cresfingham Magna, Hilburgh, &c. and empties itself into the Great Ouse below Hilgay bridge.

The

\* Blomefield.

The church of East Bradenham is dedicated to St. Mary, and consists of a nave, a north and south aisle, with a chancel built of flint, stones, &c. and covered with lead; the vault of the nave is supported by octangular pillars, forming eight arches, four on a side, and is in length about fifty-seven feet, and in breadth with the two aisles about thirty-nine feet; at the west end of the nave is a convenient and decent gallery erected for the singers, joining to the tower, which is four-square, and of the same materials with the church. In this tower hang three bells.

The chancel is in length about thirty-three feet, and in breadth about eighteen: within the rails of the communion-table lies a black marble grave-stone with this shield—Gul. a chevron ingraile between three talbots sejant, arg. Hungate.

*In memory of Henry Hungate, of East Bradenham, esq. who died the 16th of May, 1608, ætat. suæ 44.*

On the pavement in the chancel lies another, with four iron rings, as the cover of a vault, and on it,

*Reliquæ Johannis Green Armigeri Comitatus Norfolcœ diu Justitiarij in cuius piam Memoriam, non hoc uno contenta Marmore, Monumentum ad lævum posuit ex antiqua Hungatorum Familia, Oriunda, Martha Mæstissima Conjux.*

Against the south wall is a large and neat monument of marble, ornamented with the busts of a man and a woman, two cupids and an urn, and the arms of Green, per pale azure and gul. a chev. between three bucks tripping or, impaling Hungate, and thus inscribed,

*Johanens*

*Johannes Green armiger, vice comitis officio apud Norfolcienses, summa cum Laude defunctus, Deo rationem redditurus, ad caelos obiit April 28, An° Salutis, 1684, ætat. sue 35. Tu autem lector, hunc verum ecclesiæ filium, fidelem regis subditum, cleri, bonorumque omnium Amicum, omni quo potes modo prosequere, supremi Judicij Memor.*

In a window are the arms of Bury abbey.

The abbot and convent of Bury St. Edmund's presented from 1313 till the dissolution in 1535, when Robert Hogan, esq. held the patronage: after this it was in the family of Hungate, and Cæsar by marriage.

In 1683 sir William Goulston presented, as did his heirs so late as 1722: but in 1735 the Rev. Joseph Crofts was presented to this rectory by the late Mr. Gibson Lucas of Shipdham, and George Lucas, esq. is now patron.

The church at the conquest was endowed with fifteen acres of land, and there is at present a small manor belonging to the rectory.

**BRADENHAM, WEST.** In Doomsday-book we find that William earl Warren held lands here; as did Ralph de Toney. The Kailli's, or Caley's, were no doubt very early enfeoffed in this town by the earl Warren.

This manor was afterwards held by the Clifton family, the Knevets, and Reads.

In the 1st of queen Elizabeth, 1559, William Read had livery of these manors, West Bradenham, Gooderstone,

Gooderstone, &c. in Norfolk, with three in Suffolk, and by a daughter and co-heir of sir William Read, of Maffingham in Norfolk, it came by marriage to sir William Wythypole, of Christ church in Ipswich, Suffolk, descended from sir Robert Wythypole, of Wythypole in Shropshire.

In 1649, colonel Leicester Devereux was lord of one third part, in right of Elizabeth, one of the daughters and co-heirs of sir William Wythypole, who was son of the lord viscount Hereford; and Robert Yallop, esq. who in right of his wife, another co-heiress, had two parts of three of this manor. In 1665, the lord viscount Hereford having purchased the whole, sold it to Henry Warner, esq. of Wormill-hall, near Mildenhall in Suffolk, who sold it to Robert Thompson, esq. about 1684: from the Thompsons it descended to the wife of Anthony Burward, of Woodbridge in Suffolk.

**BRADENHAM'S MANOR.** Sir Thomas Tuddenham died seised of this manor, thence it came to the Bedingfields, and is now united to earl Warren's manor.

**PLAIS'S MANOR.** This manor in Edward II. was held by Richard le Plays, and bore his name: it has been long since united to the capital manor.

The church of West Bradenham is dedicated to St. Andrew, and consists of a nave, a north and south aisle, all built of flint, &c. and covered with lead: the nave is in length about forty-four feet, and in breadth, with the two isles, about thirty-six feet. The roof of the nave is supported by pillars formed of four pilasters united together, making eight

eight arches, four on a side, with a window over each arch.

The chancel is separated from the nave by an old wooden screen, over which the king's arms are painted ; and it is in length about twenty-nine feet, and in breadth about eighteen. On the pavement, towards the west end, lies a very antique marble grave-stone, deprived of its brasses ; its inscription was between two fillets of brass round the verge of the stone : at the summit of the stone, in a niche like a quarterfoil, was the head of a priest in brass, and a cross runs the length of the stone, with something couchant at the feet of it. From the incision made to let the letters of brass in, this appears to be the inscription :

CONTINET. HÆC. FOSSA. THOMÆ. NUNC. CORPUS. ET.  
OSSA.  
ECCLESIAE. RECTOR. HUJUS. EXITIT. ATQUE. PRO-  
TECTOR.  
GRATIA. QUÆSO. DEI. PROPITIETUR. EI.

This was in memory of Thomas Caley, who was rector in the reign of Edward I.

The above is one instance among many others, of what were called the *Versus Leonini* of the monks, verles rhyming in the middle, from a lion's tail, which has a knot or tuft of hair in the middle.

Against the south wall of the chancel, near the east end, are three arches, with seats for the bishop, priest, and deacon, one seat rising higher than the other, and at the head of the uppermost is an arch for holy water. In the north wall is a neat carved arch, to preserve reliks in. These arches and cupboards in walls, to be observed in many chancels, were

were the *Tabernacula* or repositories, where the holy Oil and Chrism, Eucharist, and sometimes Relicks were preserved and secured.

On the top of a north window in the chancel is a shield of Caley.

In the reign of Edward I. the Caleys were patrons.

In 1352, in the reign of Edward III. Roger de Wylby was rector.

The advowson of this rectory was given to the priory of Buckenham in Norfolk by sir Adam de Clifton, and on the 27th of April, 1384, was appropriated to that convent by Henry Spencer, bishop of Norwich, and a vicarage was settled to take place at the death of Roger de Wylby, then rector. The vicar was to have a convenient habitation, and to receive to the value of ten marks per ann. out of the profits of the rectory, that being computed to be the third part of the real value of it. The prior and convent of Norwich, and the bishop was always to nominate to the prior and convent, who were obliged to present on such nomination.

The patronage of this vicarage came to the see of Ely, by virtue of an exchange made for these spirituals for some of the temporals of that see, and the bishop of Ely first presented in 1625.

The Rev. Charles Topping, the present vicar, was presented by the bishop of Ely, Jan. 5, 1765.

West Bradenham lies in the neighbourhood of East Dereham, west about four or five miles.

An

An elegant seat has lately been built in this village by James Smythe, esq. of East Dereham, who has considerable property in this parish, and in Dereham, for which hundred he acts in the commission of the peace, and being bred to the law, is a very valuable magistrate to the community he lives in.

CALDECOTE, now by corruption called Cocket. This township is now reduced to a single farm-house, which stands south of a little rivulet which divides the hundred of South Greenhoe from that of Clackclose; it lies to the west of Shingham, and north of Oxburgh. In Doomsday-book it is wrote *Caldenchota* and *Caldechota*, from *Cald*, a cold, and *Cott*, a village or house.

Sir Henry de Caldecote held this village in the reign of Edward I.

In the 13th of Richard II. William Ode, who married Matilda, daughter and heir of John Mann, held the third part of this manor, and in this family it continued till about the end of the reign of king Henry VI. when it was conveyed to Richard Sparwe, gent. of Oxburgh, who in the year 1482 settled it on a chauntry, which he then founded in the church of Oxburgh, of which more may be seen under Oxburgh.

In the 10th of Henry IV. Thomas Fykes, &c. held a court here, as lords of the other parts of this town; and in the 4th of Henry V. sir William Catthorpe held his first court.

In the 16th of Henry VI. a fine was levied between sir Thomas Tuddenham, knt. &c. querents, Hugh Methwold, and Alice his wife, defendants, of

two

two parts of this manor, conveyed to sir Thomas, who died seised thereof in 1461, without issue; and Margaret, his sister and heir, being married to Edmund Bedingfield, esq. brought it into that family; and in the 15th of Henry VII. sir Edmund Bedingfield, Knight of the Bath, grandson of the aforesaid Margaret, was found to have the lordship, whose immediate heir and descendant, sir Richard Bedingfield, bart. of Oxborough, is the present lord.

The leet of this town, with that of Shingham, is in the lord of the hundred; the lect-fee per ann. 6d.

The church, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, hath been in ruins above a century past, many of the walls are still standing; the scite of it is on an hill on the north side, and near to the yards of the manor or farm-house: it was a single building of flint, chalk, &c. in length about twenty-seven feet, and seventeen in breadth, with a north and a south door, and two stone pedestals, or perks, for images are still to be seen by the said doors, and against the east wall or gable are two arches or niches for the said purpose: to this body there was anciently a chancel annexed, as appears from the foundation walls, about twenty feet in length and thirteen in breadth. The great decay of this and other churches in Norfolk, is owing to the materials, which are for the most part small pebbles, flint-stones, and chalk or chalk, to be found in plenty in the fields and lands: the Romans, when they made use of such small stones, used to have a layer of their brick in the space of about a foot and an half, to press and bind them together, which method Vitruvius, the prince of architecture, recommends.

The

## SOUTH GREENHOE. 17

The Rev. Robert Rolfe, rector of Hilburgh, was presented to the rectory of Caldecote in 1760.

**COCKLEY-CLEY.** In Doomsday it occurs by the name of Cleia, Cleiatorpa, (that is, *Cleie Thorpe*) and Cley, and takes its name from the stream or river that rises at the head, and runs through the midst of the town, and so to Gooderstone and Oxburgh, where it falls into the Wissley.

**WEST-HALL MANOR.** This manor in the reign of Henry VIII. after the dissolution of the abbeys, being held before by the prior of Ingham, was granted to William Wodehouse, esq. of Yaxham; thence it came to the family of the Hogans, and so the Bedingfields, and sir Richard Bedingfield, bart. of Oxburgh, is the present lord.

John Richard Dashwood, esq. nephew of the late Richard Dashwood, esq. has a seat here, situated in a fine sporting country, about three miles from Swaffham. He married the eldest daughter of the late sir Horatio Pettus, bart. of Rackheath near Norwich, some few years deceased.

The father of the late Richard Dashwood, esq. bought this house of the Wodehouses, and built to it.

**LANGWADE MANOR** is also in the present sir Richard Bedingfield, of Oxburgh.

**EAST-HALL MANOR** is also in the present sir Richard Bedingfield.

The **EARL WARREN'S MANOR** is united to the foregoing lordships.

B

William

William Bagge, esq. of Lynn, has considerable property in this town.

The lord of the hundred has the lete for the east part of the town, or Cley St. Peters ; the lete-fee is 1s. and he also has the lete for that part of the town called Lenwade, as appears from the antient hundred court rolls : and the lord of Gooderstone has the lete for the western part of the town, or All Saints.

All Saints church stands at the west end of the town ; it is built chiefly of flint, consists of a nave, a south aisle, and a chancel covered with lead. The nave is in length about thirty-five feet, and, including the south aisle, about the same in breadth ; at the west end of the nave is a round tower of flint, embattled with freestone, in which is one bell.

The chancel is in length about thirty-two feet, and in breadth about eighteen, and is separated from the nave by a new wooden screen, painted ; the communion table is railed in, and has an ascent of two steps, and the east end of the chancel is mostly of freestone.

St. Mary's chapel has been time immemorial converted into a house for the rector of All Saints : it is a very antient pile, as appears from its case of flint, &c. and the building is much more antique than the present mother church of All Saints ; the nave or body is loftier than the chancel part, which is in the form of a crescent, according to the Danish taste and custom ; and the old arch at the east end is still remaining, where is the light or window for this part now a kitchen. The whole is about thirty-one feet in length, and twenty-one in breadth.

About

About the walls of the nave may be observed several small arches, where the old windows were.

The first account to be met with of this chapel, is from an old roll, (in the reign of Henry III.) wherein sir William de Valeyns is said to have the advowson of the church of All Saints, endowed with one hundred and eight acres of land, one of pasture, and a freefald, with the chapel of St. Mary, (which he keeps to his own use) of the gift of sir William Blund, formerly lord of the village. It may not be improper here to observe, that this sir William descended from Gilbert de Blund or Blount, who came into England with the Conqueror, and had large possessions given him in Suffolk, and founded at Ixworth, (of which he was lord) a famous priory for Canons Regular of St. Augustine.

This sir William was killed at the battle of Lewes in Sussex, between Henry III. and his barons, in 1262, and left his estate to his two sisters and heirs, Agnes, who married sir William Criketot, and Rosalia, who married sir Robert de Valeyns : this sir William Blund, bore lozenge or, and sable, and Valeyns, bore Arg. three piles wavy gules.

In 1384, mention is also made of this chapel in a will ; and in 1533, the bishop of Norwich gave licence to the rector of All Saints, to have the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist in the said chapel, by which it appears that it was not then profaned, but soon after, it was made the rectory-houle for the rector of All Saints, and so continues to this day. In 1731, the rector's (the Rev. Mr. Bain's) workmen clearing the well, on the north side of the houle, which caved in, the bones and remains of three persons were found adjoining, as they were laid

when buried ; and in the garden here many human bones have been dug up, which shews it to have had the privilege of burial, which was seldom granted to any chapel, when the mother church was so near.

St. Peter's church stood at the east end of the town, adjoining to the garden walls of Richard Dashwood, esq. The wall of flint, wherewith the church-yard was inclosed, may still be observed, and the steeple of the church, which is said to have been accidentally burnt in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was standing about seventy years past.

Town lands. New-close at the west end of the town, lett for 2li. per ann.—Land in Swaffham, lett for 1li. 16s. 6d. per ann.—Land in Oxburgh, given by the Rev. Mr. Yorker, rector of Cley All Saints, lett for 3li. per ann. The profits of this every sixth year, belongs to Oxburgh.

In 1735, the Rev. Henry Topping was presented to the consolidated rectory of Cockley-Cley, All Saints with St. Peter, by Edward Walpole, esq.

CRESSINGHAM, GREAT. This town takes name from a little river or creak adjoining, termed by the Saxons *Gpecca*. In Doomsday-book it is accounted for under the lands of William bishop of Thetford, the see being not then removed to Norwich.

CRESSINGHAM, or the DEAN and CHAPTER of NORWICH'S MANOR. This manor was enjoyed by the bishops of the see till the reign of king Stephen, when Eborard the bishop, being distressed in the wars between the king and the empress Maud, was obliged

obliged to resign his right in this town, and in part of Blickling in Norfolk, to two powerful knights and leaders, to preserve the rest of his bishoprick ; but this being done without the consent or advice of his convent, he afterwards entreated pope Eugenius to absolve him, and that the said lordships might be restored to his church of Norwich ; and accordingly this lordship came again into the bishop's hands, and in the beginning of king John's reign.

In 1513, or soon after, it came to the Jenneys, who held it of the dean and chapter of Norwich on the dissolution of the priory. From the Jenneys it came to alderman Farrington, of London, who conveyed it to Samuel Grant, counsellor, of London, who held it in 1692 ; and Edward Chute, esq. purchased it of Grant, whose two sons, Leonard and Devereux, dying without issue, it descended to Thomas Lobb Chute, esq. of South Pickenham, who holds it of the dean and chapter.

The old hall belonging to this lordship appears by the arms on the walls to be built by the Jenneys.

**HOCKHAM'S, GLOSEBRIG'S, and RYLEY'S.** In the reign of Henry VIII. sir Christopher Jenney held it, and in him it was united to the manor of Street-hall, and so remains.

**STREET-HALL, alias STRAW-HALL,** is with the former manor in Thomas Lobb Chute, esq. from the Jenneys and Farrington.

The church of Cressingham Magna is an uniform building, of flint, boulder, &c. and copings of free-stone, consisting of a nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel, all covered with lead, and is dedicated

ted to St. Michael. The nave is about forty-eight feet long, and together with the aisles about forty-two feet wide ; the vault of the nave is supported by pillars, each formed of four pilasters joined together, which bear up eight neat arches, four on each side, and as many windows over them ; the roof is of oak. At the west end of the nave stands the tower, of the same materials as the church, with a wooden cap covered with lead, and a weathercock thereon. In this tower hang four modern bells ; and it has a bell-follar, or place for the ringers : such places were in antient times frequently erected, by the gifts of well disposed persons, for the greater convenience and decency of their processions, that the priest and people coming in at the western door might not be any way incommoded by the ropes and ringers.

Against the north wall is a compartment of stone, adorned with foliages, &c. and on a black marble in the centre,

*M. S. Elizabethæ uxoris Thomæ Lobb Armigeri, Tho-  
mæ Chute Armigeri filie Natu maximæ, qui patrem ha-  
buit Chalonerum e Com' Hants. Armig' in Comitijs Pro-  
vincialibus non ita pridem Prolocutorem. Virtutis exerci-  
tatae non minus quam Patriæ virum. Ipsa vero acceptam  
hanc a Proavis, si non adauxerit, propriam certe fecit,  
cum omnes quæ filiam, Uxorem, et Matrem commendare  
possunt, impleret partes, Hinc parvum fortasse videatur  
quod Patrimonio a Fratre Tho. Lenn. Chute, ei relicto,  
mariti locupleret Ædes, cum antea Cumulatiōri multo dote  
se Virtutum omnium cohones statat. Die Septembri Viceffimo  
Septimo An°. Dni. 1725. Puerpura infeliciter ex-  
tincta est, Filium unum, duasque Filiolas Connubialis Tori  
pignora relinquens, memor et Mærens hunc Lapidem po-  
suit Maritus.*

## SOUTH GREENHOE. 23

On the pavement, near to the south wall, lies a marble grave-stone, with this shield, or, on a bend between two fleur de lys gul. a lion passant of the first. Lany.

H. S. E.

EDWARDUS LANY

S. T. P. Aulæ Pembrociæ apud Cantabrigienses  
Scholaris, Socius, CUSTOS.

Collegij Greshamensis apud Londinenses  
Prælector Theologicus,

Academiæ A. D. MDCCVIII Procancellarius,  
Hujuscce Ecclesiæ, antea de SALLE in hoc Agro,  
Rector,

Moritur,

Aulæ, Collegio, Academiæ, Ecclesiæ,  
Vir Desideratissimus,

V Idus Augusti A. D. MDCCXXVIII. Ætatis LXI.

The arms of the priory of Norwich remain in the east window, and in one of the north windows.

On an altar monument, at the west end of the church-yard:

*Hic jacet humatus Vir Reverendus Gulielmus Chambers, variis molestijs diutissime fatigatus, solitus tandem ex Corporis ergastulo, placide sicut vixerat, in Christo Obdormiens; obiit Septimo Die Januarij An°. Domini MDCCXX. Æta' suæ 55.*

In 1598, William Boulton, S. T. B. was rector, with the chapel of St. George annexed.

This chapel stood in a close about a mile south-east from the town, called Stone-Close, belonging to the rector, and was the chapel of an hermit.—

Here is a fair kept yearly on the 1st of August, belonging to the rector, in right of this chapel, which was anciently parochial.

In 1622, Edward Francklin, S. T. B. chaplain to the lord chancellor Bacon, was rector, and in 1621 he had a dispensation to hold the rectory of St. Laurence, with the vicarage of Kelvedon, alias Easterfield, in Essex. In the rebellion he was ejected out of this, and the rectory of Cressingham Parva: and in endeavouring to escape from the rebels, the point of a pale in his garden run into his groin, of which wound he died, leaving a widow and four children.

The present rector is the Rev. Thomas Chamberlain, son of the late rector the Rev. Edward Chamberlain, who resigned the living some time before his decease. The present rector was presented by the crown in 1768.

This rectory, with the chapel of St. George, stands in the king's books at 17l. 18s. 1d. and were consolidated with Bodney, Oct. 18, 1770.

CRESSINGHAM, LITTLE. At the survey Ralph de Tony held this village as a beruite depending on his manor of Necton. It was in length one mile, and half a mile in breadth.

The late Mr. Knopwood, of Threxton, sold this manor to the present Earl Clermont, of the kingdom of Ireland, the present lord; who has made some considerable improvements on the estate, and has laid the foundation for a mansion-house.

HOPTON-HOUSE MANOR. About a mile south of the village, in this parish, stands a farm-house, called Hopton-house.

## SOUTH GREENHOE. 52

In 1249, Nicholas de Hopeton was lord of this manor, from whom probably the manor took its name.

This manor is now in the possession of sir William de Grey, knt. the present lord chief justice of the Common Pleas, by a late purchase.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 18l. 12s. 6d.

In 1747 the Rev. John Brundish, jun. was presented to the rectory of Cressingham Parva by John Soley, clerk.

DIDLINGTON, or DUDLINGTON. In the Conqueror's time this township, then wrote Dudelingtuna, had two lordships; one held by the earl Warren, the other by Ralph lord Limesey.

The EARL WARREN'S MANOR. Robert Wilson, esq. of Merton in Surry, who died Nov. 11, 1660, and was son of Rowland Wilson, merchant of London, who fined for alderman, by Catherine his wife, daughter of Richard Rudd, citizen of London, afterwards wife of John Highlord, alderman of London, bought this manor in 1650 of sir John Sidley, bart. of St. Clees in Kent.

The said Rowland is said to have founded an almshouse at Merton.

Robert married Catherine, daughter of Edward Ashe, of London, merchant, father of sir Joseph Ashe, knt. and bart. His second wife was Joan, daughter of Mr. Parker, of London, merchant. By his first wife he had two sons, Robert Wilson, esq. who

who died a bachelor in 1701, and Edward Wilson, of Colveston, esq. who married a daughter of Mr. Webster, of Bungay in Suffolk, by whom he had the late Robert Wilson, esq. whose nephew, Henry-William Wilson, esq. formerly an officer in the regiment of dragoons commanded by marshal sir Robert Rich, bart. and late lieut. colonel of the eastern battalion of the Norfolk militia, is the present lord.

The lord Limesey's manor is united to the earl Warren's.

The church of Didlington is a regular structure, having a nave, and north and south aisles, covered with lead; the length of the nave is about forty-nine feet, and the breadth, including the aisles, about forty feet; the rest of the nave is of oak, and the vault of it is supported by octangular pillars, forming eight arches, four on a side.

In the windows are the arms of Scales, Bardolph, earl Warren, Howard, Albany, and Clifton.

The chancel is divided from the nave by an ancient screen, and is in length about forty, and in breadth about fifteen feet, and has an ascent of three steps to the communion table, which is railed in.

Against the south wall, near the east end, is a compartment of free-stone, embellished with festoons, &c. On the summit is, fable, a wolf saliant, or, and in chief a fleur de lys, arg. between two bezants of the 2d. Wilson; and in the center, on a black marble, this inscription in letters of gold:

*Here lyeth the body of Robert Wilson, of Didlington in the County of Norfolk, Esq; son and heir of Robert*

*Robert Wilson, of Merton in the County of Surry, Esq; He departed this Life on the 10th of December, 1701, in the 51st year of his age.*

Under the shield is this Motto:

*Deducet in Portum.*

On a like compartment against the north wall is this inscription:

*Here lyeth the body of Edward Wilson, of Didlington, Esq; second Son of Robert Wilson, of Merton in the County of Surry, Esq; He departed this Life April 3, 1708, in the Year of his Age 55. Here also lyeth the body of Catherine Wilson, Daughter to the said Edward Wilson, who departed this Life 29th September 1699. Here also lyeth the body of Catherine Wilson, another daughter of the said Edward Wilson, who departed this Life February 11, 1708.*

The church of Didlington was formerly a rectory. The church was appropriated to the convent of Marham on the 20th of December, 1302, by John, bishop of Norwich, and a vicar endowed.

In 1570, John Holdich, esq. presented, who purchased the rectory, and the presentation to the vicarage, from John Hare, citizen and mercer of London.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 8l. 4s. 4d. and in 1748 the Rev. John Brundish, jun. was presented to the vicarage of Didlington, with the rectory of Colneston, consolidated in 1616.

The present patron of this vicarage is Henry-William Wilson, esq. who resides at the family seat at Didlington.

This

This village lies near Oxburgh, and is eight miles from Swaffham to the south-west.

**FOULDON.** At the great survey this town occurs by the name of Fulgaduna, Fulendun, and Phuldon, and takes its name from the plenty of wild fowl which frequented it, it being seated in the midst of fens and morasses ; *Fugol*, in Saxon, signifies *wild fowl*, and in some antique writings it is wrote Fugeldune.

**The EARL WARREN'S MANOR.** Margaret, relict of Edmund Bedingfield, esq. sister and heiress to sir Thomas Tuddenham, died seised of the manor here.

**LATIMER'S MANOR.** In the 6th of queen Elizabeth, Miles Holdich, son and heir of Richard, was lord, and held it by the payment or service of one rose yearly to the queen, and after him John Holdich. After this it came by the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Henry Holdich, esq. to sir John Sidley, and his son sir John Sidley, bart. sold it to Robert Long, esq. of the family of Reymerton in Norfolk, whose son Robert was lord, and his son sold it to the lady Bennet, widow of sir Levinus Bennet.

This manor is now in the family of the Tysons, and — Tyson, esq. of Hackey, is the present lord. The leet is in Mr. Tyson, as lord of the manor.

The church is a regular pile, having a nave, with a north and south aisle of flint, &c. in length about fifty-two feet, and in breadth, with the aisles, about forty-four feet; the nave is laid with free-stone, as are the passages between the north and south doors,  
at

at the cost and charge of Mr. Raymond: the roof of the nave is of oak, and covered with lead, (as the whole church is) supported by octangular pillars, which form eight lofty arches, four on a side; above are six windows, three on a side, over the pillars. At the west end of the nave is a four-square tower of flint, &c. with quoins and embattlements of free-stone, and on them eight stone pinnacles, carved. In this tower hang five small tuneable bells, the treble was the gift of Mr. Raymond, and has his arms cast on it.

Against the north-east wall of the nave, near to the chancel, is a monument of grey marble, adorned with foliages, and on the cornish is this shield,— Raymond, sable a chevron between three eaglets display'd, arg. on a chief of the second, a bendlet engrailed between two martlets of the first; the crest, a cat sejant arg. On a black marble in the center, this inscription in letters of gold:

*Under this Pew lyeth buried the body of Sarah, only daughter of Humphrey, second Son of Humphrey Moseley, of Ousden-hall in Suffolk, Esq; the most endearing and beloved wife of Burham, eldest Son of Thomas Raymond, the first sole Keeper of the Papers of State and Council at Whitehall to King Charles II. She lived and died very religiously, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1700. The disconsolate Burham, to his most endearing and beloved Consort, has caused this Monument to be erected, in token of his sincere and lasting Love to her deserved Memory.*

*Her love to him, his sorrow for her death  
Were equal, for they end, but with their breath.*

*Here*

*Here also lyeth the body of Burham Raymond, husband to the aforesaid Sarah, who died December 30, 1728, aged 80 years.*

A large arched monument is raised on the foundation of the south aisle, facing the church-yard, of free-stone; under this arch, on the ground, lies a flat marble grave-stone, partly covered by the arch, and partly by the wall. These arched monuments, and this immuring of founders, was practised in ancient days; and this seems to be built about the reign of Edward I.

At the east end of this aisle, is the stone stair-case which led to the rood-loft. Joining to this south aisle is a porch covered with lead, and over the door a pedestal for some image.

The church is divided from the chancel by a screen, which hath been curiously carved and painted, ornamented with canopy work and images: this chancel is in length about thirty-eight feet, and in breadth about twenty, hath a good roof of oak, covered with lead.

In the east window in two places, and in one on the south side, is Bateman, s<sup>a</sup>b. a crescent ermine in a bordure engrailed, arg. And was thus borne by Bateman, bishop of Norwich, executor to Edmund Gonville, founder of the college of that name in Cambridge.

Against the north wall of this chancel, is a very large and lofty mural monument of black and white marble, adorned with foliages, having two black marble pillars of the Corinthian order, with their capitals gilt with gold, supporting the cornish; on that

that the busto of an angel with wings of gold, above that the figure of an angel, winged as before, and on the summit, Longe, gules a saltire engrailed or. on a chief of the second, three croflets pattee of the first; and on a black marble in the center of the monument, this epitaph in letters of gold.

*Quod supereft Ornatiſſimi Viri Roberti Longe armigeri, ſub cortice marmoreo hic prope poſito, jacet, reconditum. Vixit non minus patriæ, quam fuorum commodo, annos ſexaginta et očlo, obijt (proh dolor) decimo septimo die Septembris, anno redemptionis 1656, habens ex unica uxore Elizabetha, tres filios, Robertum, Henricum, et Richardum, et quinque filias, Elizabetham, Margaretam, Sufannam, Mariam, et Sarah, prognatos et ſuperflites, hujus merito amoris ſui fideliffimi memorie, ſacrum hoc dedit pignus, Elizabetha predicla jam mærens vidua.*

On the pavement lies the grave-stone of marble, thus inscribed;

ROBERTUS	}	LONGE, obijt	17 Septemb. 1656.
ELIZABETHA			10 Octob. 1666.

On the pavement near the east end of the chancel is a marble grave-stone thus inscribed:

*Hic jacet corpus Sufann: uxoris ſecundæ Roberti Longe de Fouldon, in Com. Norff. armig. et filiæ ſecund. Clem. Heigham de Barrow in Com. Suff. armig. obijt viceffimo ſexto die Aprilis, anno Domini 1689.*

About the year 1349, Gonville hall or college, in Cambridge, bought the patronage of this church; and June 16, 1350, the bishop of Norwich appropriated

priated the rectory to that college, when a vicarage was settled.

In 1760, the masters and fellows of Gonville and Caius college, Cambridge, presented the Rev. Samuel Newman to this vicarage, consolidated with Oxborough; and in 1765 the Rev. John White was presented.

**GOODERSTONE**, or **Goodeston**, in Doomsday-book occurs by the name of Godestuna, that is, *a town seated by a good ea or water*, a pretty rivulet running all along the north side of it, and not as some have thought, *Goderic's town*, from Goderic the sewer, lord of it by the Conqueror's gift.

This manor in the reign of Henry VIII. was in the earl of Kent; from that earl it came to sir William Capel, lord mayor of London, and so to the earl of Essex, and that earl is the present lord.

The lete is in the lord of the manor, and we find by the extent of the honor of Forncet, that it was held of that honor.

The church is built of flint and boulder, dedicated to St. George: it consists of a nave or body, a south aisle and a chancel, all covered with lead; the nave is in length about fifty-two feet, and in breadth, including the south aisle, about thirty-three feet. In a window of the nave, at the upper end, are the remains of the arms of Grey, quartering Hastings and Valence, and arg. a cross gules, St. George's arms, it being glazed most likely by the gild of that name, as appeared lately from a fragment of an inscription therein. At the west end of this nave stands a large, but low four-square tower of flint,

&c.

&c. with quoins and embattlements of freestone, in which are three modern bells. The south aisle has been a chauncry or chapel, belonging to St. George's gild; there is an ascent of two steps at the east end, and against a pillar, on the left hand, stands a large stone pedestal for its patron saint. In the upper pannel of the east window is the bust of our Saviour, under that, angels sounding the last trump, and the dead arising out of their graves, and adjoining to this aisle is a porch covered with lead. The chancel is divided from the nave by a lofty screen, which has been well painted and gilt with gold, being carved, and full of imagery work; on the pannels the twelve apostles are painted, with labels, also a cardinal, a bishop, &c. The length of the chancel is about twenty-nine feet, the breadth about twenty, and has six stalls at the west end, three on a side; where the rector, vicar, their Capellani or chaplains, and the chauncry priests had their seats, they being obliged to join in the choir at the canonical hours, and to be obedient to the rector or vicar, swearing obedience at their admission; and against the south wall, near the end, have been three seats of stone, one higher than the other.—It appears here were several gilds, and there were the images of St. Catherine, St. Mary, St. Nicholas, and their lights.

It was antiently a rectory, the patronage going with the manor.

Gooderstone is situated about a mile to the westward of Cockley-Cley.

In 1775, the Rev. Thomas Dummer Ley was presented to the vicarage or curacy by Mr. Anthony Horrex.

HILBURGH, HILBERWORTH, vel HILBOROUGH, or HILBOROWE. At the time of compiling the great survey, called Doomsday, Keillys or Caleys held Hilberworth<sup>‡</sup> of William earl Warren, who held the same of the Conqueror.

In the 40th year of Edward III. 1367, this manor was in the possession of Adam, son of Roger de Clifton, by Margaret, only sister and heir of sir Thomas de Cailey; and on the 15th of February, 26th of Henry VI. 1448, was, together with Cranwys, West Bradenham, and Babingly cum Wulverton, assigned as the dower of Jane, the wife of sir John Clifton, knt. Elizabeth, sister and heir of this sir John de Clifton, brought Hilburgh with her in marriage to sir William Knyvet, knt. who on the 10th of Edward IV. as we learn from the accounts of the manor, and by written orders under his sign manual and signet, directed sundry payments to be made thereout to Alice, his mother. The sum ordered in that and succeeding years was 40s. each time.

	£. s. d.
At this time the rents of affise of this manor were per ann. about	18 0 0
The park per ann.	8 0 0
A water-mill	6 13 8
The rabbit warren	30 0 0
Foldage for nine hundred sheep	2 0 4
Besides profits of courts,* &c.	
	This

‡ It was then called Hildeburghwella.

\* Several lordships then paid rents and reliefs thereto, viz. Illington, Buckenham Parva, Stanford, Bodney, Cley, Fouldon, Didlington, Wroxham, Langford, Gooderston, Ickborough, Tofts, Lindford, Moundeford, and Cressingham; so that it resembles an honor.

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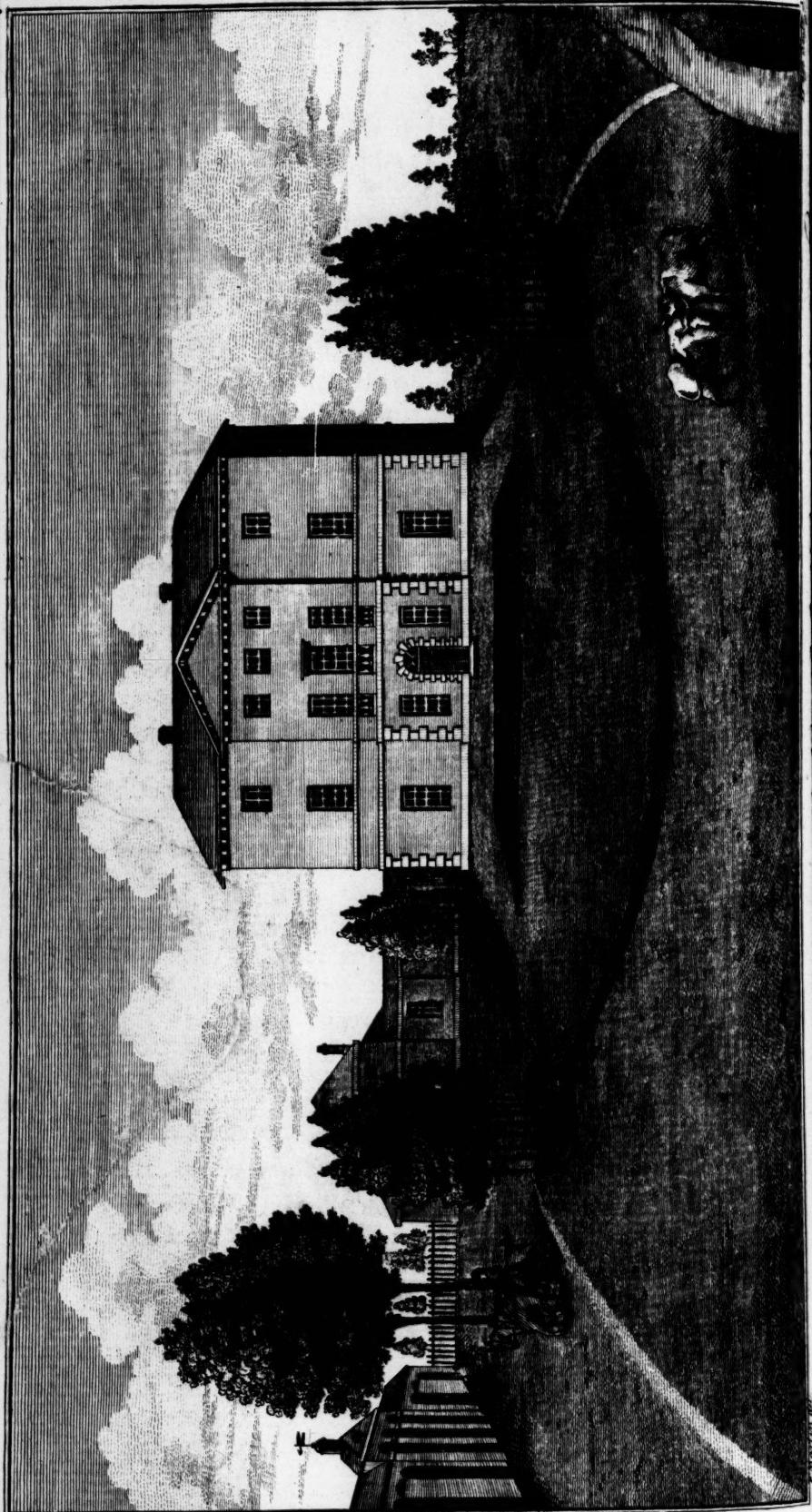
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HILLBOROWE PARK-HOUSE.



This manor continued in the family of Knyvet until the 9th year of king James I. 1612, when sir Philip Knyvet, of Buckenham castle, bart. sold it to Robert lord Rich, who in the 19th year of the same reign, being then earl of Warwick, conveyed it to sir Ralph Hare, of Stowe Bardolph, knight of the Bath.

The family of Hare were owners of it until the year 1720, when sir Thomas Hare sold it to James Nelthorpe, esq. whose son, James Nelthorpe, esq. in the year 1763, sold this manor and lordship of Hilborowe vel Hilberworth, now commonly called Hilburgh, to the present possessor thereof Ralph Caldwell, esq. F. S. A. and one of his majesty's justices of the peace for the county of Norfolk.

This gentleman, who is descended from an ancient family of the same name long since seated in Staffordshire, having in the year 1769 obtained an act of parliament for inclosing the parish of Hilburgh, divided and parcelled out the same into convenient farms, on each of which he erected a farm-house, with proper offices; and near the old manor-house, in the old inclosure called Hilburgh park, hath built for himself a fair mansion, 1779.

It appears by the pedigree of the ancient family of Caldwell of Staffordshire, preserved in the archives of the college of arms, that John Caldwell, of Caldwell, near Griesley-castle, in the county of Derby, who flourished about the year 1220, bore for his arms, gules, three crosses patee fitche, or. His great, great grandson, John Caldwell, about the year 1340, married Alice, sole daughter and heir of Robert de Auleston, of Alston hall in Staffordshire, who bore for his arms, azure, ten stars, 4, 3, 2, 1, or.

This John Caldwell seated himself at Alston hall aforesaid, which continued to be the possession and place of residence of his family until the year 1740.

One of the descendants of this last-mentioned John Caldwell, was Thomas Caldwell, born at Alston hall in the year 1635, who had three sons, viz. Ralph, Thomas, and John Caldwell, which John was vicar of Routon, rector of Shillington in the county of Dorset, and domestic chaplain to Thomas the last earl of Leicester. He departed this life in 1758, being then in the 77th year of his age, and left issue three sons, the youngest of whom, Ralph Caldwell, esq. is the present possessor of Hilburgh, 1779.

This Ralph Caldwell, esq. having been educated in the study of the law, became land steward, receiver, and court-keeper to Thomas Coke, earl of Leicester. The earl died in 1759, and by his last will not only confirmed the enjoyment of those offices to Mr. Caldwell during the term of his natural life, but appointed him and sir Matthew Lambe, bart. devisees in trust of all his estates and effects, and the executors of his will.

The manner in which these difficult and important duties have ever since been discharged by Mr. Caldwell alone, will be best testified by the sentiments of his great and generous patroness, the late countess dowager of Leicester, (who died in February, 1775) as expressed in her last will, bearing date the 15th day of September, 1766; also by the great advance made by him of the yearly income of the earl's landed estates, which during the forty years that they have been under his management are nearly doubled, as will appear by the rentals thereof at the death

death of the late Wenman Coke, esq. in April, 1766.

The church is a small but regular building, dedicated to All Saints, having its nave, north and south aisles, and chancel built of flint, &c. and covered with lead: the nave is in length about forty-two feet, and the breadth, with the aisles, forty-one feet; the roof of the nave is supported by pillars forming six arches, three on a side, with windows over each arch.

Over the arch of the door of the tower is the shield of Clifton, supported by two antelopes, or rather ibex's fejant, and on an helmet a plume of feathers. These are the insignia of John de Clifton, who flourished in the reign of Edward III. and was summoned to parliament as a baron in the beginning of Richard II. and was no doubt the founder of this church, and died at Rhodes in that king's reign: the being heirs to the Kaillis or Caleys assumed most likely their arms, using only a bend by way of distinction; and the Caleys it is probable, being dependants, and nearly attached to the earl Warren, assumed his coat, changing only the colours, a practice very frequent in ancient days.

The patronage was in the family of Caley till 1335, when lord Robert de Ufford presented, and it remained in the earls of Suffolk some time; after which this church was presented to by the Cliftons. Sir William Knyvet was patron in 1471, and in 1576 and 1581 queen Elizabeth presented.

In 1734 the Rev. Edmund Nelson held it, united to the vicarage of Sporle, with Palgrave Parva consolidated, and at his death, in 1747, was succeeded

by his son, the Rev. Edmund Nelson, who was presented by Mrs. Mary Nelson, patroness in full right; and in 1756 she presented the Rev. Robert Rolfe, who is the present rector.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 13l.  
6s. 8d.

St. Margaret's chapel. At the north west end of the town of Hilburgh, in a grass close, stands the chapel of St. Margaret, built of flint and boulder, in length about thirty-six feet, and in breadth about twenty, from out to out: the arched windows at the east and west are now the only windows remaining; it is a low plain pile, and has the face of great antiquity.

This chapel was founded by the family of Cailly, and sir Osbert de Cailly, in the reign of Henry III. by deed gave it to Hervey de Brokedish, the chaplain. To this deed hangs a large round seal circumscribed,

#### SIGILLVM : OSBERTI : DE : KAILLI :

He is represented on a horse running full speed, in armour, with a close helmet, his drawn sword in his hand, a shield of his arms, chequy only, and the trappings of the horse are also chequy. The reverse hath only, a plain chequered shield circumscribed,

#### SIGILLVM. SECRETUM.

This seal being somewhat remarkable, we shall here add a word or two on that subject.—Whether the Norman nobility brought the use of large seals into

into England, or found it here, is not very certain, but certain it is, that they used them soon after their arrival; the most usual impresses being an armed man or knight on horseback, with a drawn sword, and the bearers name round him; perhaps the large territories wherewith the Conqueror rewarded their services, induced them to believe themselves to be advanced to so many principalities, and this conceit might incline them to rival their sovereign himself, in the granduer of their public instruments. Sometimes instead of the horseman we have a lion, leopard, greyhound, bird, or other device, part of the arms of the family, but always the persons own proper name incircling his paternal coat, or whatever other impression he was pleased to fancy. Seals as this of a round form generally betokened something of royalty in the possessor, and a more than ordinary extent of temporal jurisdiction. Whereas great ladies under coverture, and bishops and abbots, &c. commonly made use of oval and oblong ones. If the grantor's quality was mean, and his family too inconsiderable to bear arms, the conveyances were usually ratified under the authentic seal of some public officer, or corporation, the reason being affigned, "*Quia Sigillum meum penitus est ignorantum, Sigillum Officialis de, &c. apponi procuravi.*" Nobility and other persons of rank and family had also their larger and lesse seals, the former giving the impression of their ancestors coat, and the latter oftentimes any little device without a scutcheon.

It has been a prevailing opinion that no seals, on wax, were used here till the Normans taught us this fashion; but sir Edward Coke gives instances of grants passed by some of our Saxon princes, *sub proprio Sigillo*; but to this it may be reply'd, that the crosses were antiently stiled indifferently *Signa et Sigilla.*

*illa.* And as it is plain that sealing was in common use soon after the conquest, so it is certain that there were several conveyances which (even as low down as the reign of Edward III.) were admitted as good and legal when well attested, though they had no seals ever affixed to them, being the grants of such as still adhered to their old Saxon modes, and so retained the antient subscriptions of names and crosses. There were other transgressions of the common rule and practice, as when Edward III. fancifully gave,

*The Norman the Hunter, the Hope  
And the Hope-Town,  
With all the bounds upside down,  
And in witness that it was sooth,  
He bit the wax with his fong Tooth.\**

And to Aubrey de Vere's conveyance of Hatfield, a short black hafted knife was affixed instead of a seal, &c.

Many effectual antient conveyances of right were antiently made without writing, feizin being then only taken by delivery of a sword, helmet, horn, spur, bow, arrow, &c. but even in those times, the more cautious thought it safest to convey their lands *in scriptis*, hence the *Gewrite Landboe, Telligraphum* and *Chiographum* of the Saxon age.

John Collet was chaplain of the free chapel of St. Margaret, in 1508. He was then D. D. dean of St. Paul's, London, rector of Denington in Suffolk, &c. The income of this free school is then said to be

\* A deed, to the same effect, was granted to the antient family of Hunter, of Polmood in Scotland.

be worth 30l. per ann. as appears from a rental of the dean's estate, spiritual and temporal; which was a very considerable sum in that age, and almost equalled that great living (as Dr. Knight, in his life of this dean, calls it) of Denington, which is said to be 31l.

This chapel being dissolved by Edward VI. was in the fourth year of his reign, 1550, given with sixty acres of land to Thomas Reve, and Giles Isham, and their heirs, to be held of the manor of East Greenwich in Kent.

At this day it is called by the neighbouring people, the Pilgrims Chapel, being visited most likely by them in their way to Walsingham, which lies through this town from London; there are said to have been above an hundred acres of land in the fields of Hilburgh belonging to it, and no doubt was very nobly endowed, being formerly accounted a manor; and lands in the said fields were held by the tenure of finding of wax tapers, &c. for the chapel, as appeared from an old field-book in the hands of Mr. Wace, formerly the owner thereof, who devised the same, together with sundry messuages, lands, &c. in Hilburgh, to his daughter Dorothy, wife of Edward Bunting, gent. In the year 1767, the trustees on behalf of her grandson, Mr. Robert Bunting, appointed by an act of parliament then lately passed, sold the same to the present possessor, Ralph Caldwell, esq. 1779.

HOLM-HALE. In antient writings Holm and Hale appear not only to be two distinct lordships, but two distinct villages, and occur by the names of South-Holm juxta Hale, and Hale, or Hill-Hale, and on the union of these lordships, &c. under one and

and the same lord, obtained the name of Holm-Hale.

HOLM MANOR was so called from its low and moist situation, and land inclosed with water. By the inquisitions taken in the 24th of Henry III. it appears that Giles de Hulmo was lord, who was son of sir Robert de Hulmo, lord of Filby, and of this manor.

In the 20th of Edward III. Stephen de Titeshale, and Richard de Burwood, were lords of the Fitz-Walter fee, held by Giles de Hulmo, and John Dodington, &c. held of Stephen, &c. what Oliva de Aula held; but about the end of this king's reign, both these tenures came into the family of Illey, lords of Hale.

HALE MANOR. In the 24th of Henry III. the heirs of Edmund de Illey were found to hold in Hale, one knight's fee of the lord Fitz-Walter, and that lord of the king.

This lordship came into the family of the Jenneys in Suffolk, and from the Jenneys it came to the Bedingfields, and in the reign of queen Elizabeth, Anthony Bedingfield, esq. third son of sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, was lord, which Anthony married Elizabeth, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Ralph Danyel, of Swaffham, gent. and Anthony Bedingfield, of Testerton in Norfolk, esq. descended from the aforesaid Anthony, died lord in 1707, whose son, Francis Bedingfield, sold it to Henry Ibbot, of Swaffham, attorney; and his son, Benjamin Ibbot, esq. a gentleman who acquired by his travels into foreign countries, and by making the tour of Europe, an excellent taste, or what is now called

called *virtu*, and has been much esteemed on that account, is the present lord.

The aforesaid Danyel, held also a capital messuage here, called BERRER'S, or BURES-HALL, which hall was purchased of the Bedingfields by the Eyres. In 1739, John Eyre, esq. died, and it is at present enjoyed by John Dashwood, esq. of Cockley-Cley.

ELWYN'S, GROOSE'S, and WHITE'S MANOR, was annexed to the former lordship.

As here were formerly two capital lordships of Holm and Hale, so these lordships had for some time two churches to which they presented : of the church of Holm, in the beginning of Edward I. sir Robert de Hulmo was patron. This church is now united to Necton, and held by the Rev. Mr. William Young, of Swaffham, who has the advowson of this living and Necton.

This rectory is valued in the king's books by the name of Holm Hale, alias Hale Brian, at 12l. 16s. 5d.

In 1752, the Rev. William Young was presented to this rectory by Thomas Patrick Young, clerk.

The church of Holm-Hale is dedicated to St. Andrew, and was begun to be built in the reign of king Richard III.

HOUGHTON. This village lies on the east side of the hundred, near to that of Weyland, and adjoining to North Pickenham, from which it is parted by a rivulet, that arises at Bradenham ; it is situated on a rising ground, and takes its name from its

its scite, *Houghton, or High-Town*, and is called Houghton on the Hill, to distinguish it from the other Houghton in this county.

At the conquest it became the lordship of Alan earl of Richmond, and Ribald lord of Mileham in Yorkshire, brother to Alan, held it under him ; and Ralph son of Robert, grandson of Ribald, who was in ward of the bishop of Canterbury, held this town, and the Pickenhams, in the reign of Richard I. it being then valued at 25l. per ann. This Ralph married Mary daughter of Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, and had a discharge by writ from half a knight's fee, in the 19th of king John, and held Houghton *in capite*. Ralph Fitz-Ralph, in the 50th of Henry III. would not permit the sheriffs to enter into his manors in this county, which implies that he had return of writs therein himself.

He died in the 54th of that king, and his heart was buried at Richmond, (being founder of the Friars Minims there) where his wife Anastasia was buried, but his body was buried at Coverham in Yorkshire, in the monastery church there ; and having no issue male, his estate was divided between his three daughters ; and in the 55th of the said king, the sheriff of Norfolk gave an account of 11l. 15s. 8d. ob. of the issues of his lands in this town, &c. in Norfolk, before he delivered the third part thereof to Robert de Neville, (who married Mary, the eldest daughter and co-heir, who had with her the honor and castle of Middleham in Yorkshire, this manor, the Pickenhams, and other towns in Norfolk) and a part to Robert de Tatehale, who married Joan, (who died without issue) and the other part remained in the king's hands, Anastasia, the third daughter and co-heir, being under age ; and this part Edward the

the king's son seized into his hands, and gave it to Gilbert Hansard.

This Robert de Nevile, was son of Robert de Nevile, lord of Raby, and lived about ten years her husband; when he is said to be inhumanly put to death, for his criminal conversation with a lady at Craven in Yorkshire, and his lady lived about forty years his widow, and died in the 13th of Edward II. seised of this manor and the Pickenhams, &c. and left them to her son, Ralph, then aged forty years.

In this family it continued through many descents, who were earls of Westmoreland, and sir George, third son to Ralph earl of Westmoreland, being called to parliament by the title of lord Latimer, married Elizabeth daughter of Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick. This lord in his latter days was an ideot, and his lands were granted in custody to Richard Nevile, the great earl of Warwick, and died in the 9th of Edward IV. seised of this manor, both the Pickenhams, Fouldon and Carbroke, Woodhall, &c. all which descended to sir Richard Nevile, knt. his grandson, and heir by sir Henry Nevile, lord Latimer, his only son, who was killed at Edgcote Field, in the same year that his father died, and a little before his father, having married a daughter of the lord Berners, by whom he had the said sir Richard, who had not livery of his lands till the 6th of Henry VII. though he was in arms for that king at Stoke-battle; he married Ann daughter of Humphrey Stafford, of Grafton, esq. and died the 22d of Henry VIII. leaving by her John lord Latimer, his son, &c. who was in the rebellion called the Pilgrimage of Grace, in that king's reign; which John married for his second wife Catherine daughter of sir Thomas Parr (his first wife being Dorothy daughter

ter

ter of the earl of Oxford) which said Catherine was afterwards married to Henry VIII. by whose interest most likely John his son had livery of this manor and North Pickenham, in the 35th of Henry VIII. (his father John died about the same time) together with the manors of Danby, Thornton, Snape, Wellc, &c. in Yorkshire; Corby, Burton, Latimers, &c. in Northamptonshire; Compton and Norris, in Berkshire; Wadburgh, in Worcestershire; Warcup, in Westmoreland; and as heir to the earl of Oxford, of Barton Bendish, Ilington, Weeting, Sandringham, Knapton, Middleton, Scales Hoo, Tittleshall, Babingly, Wolferton, Fittons in Wiggenhall, Toftrees, and East Winch, in Norfolk; Brookhall, Holbrooke, Chelleworth, Walsham, and Preston, in Suffolk; Kensington, in Middlesex; Bures Marks or Bevers Marks, in London; Oldhall in Wethersfield, in Essex; Sawston, Haukeston, and Dullingham, in Cambridgeshire; Stoney Stratford, in Warwickshire; Calverton, in Bucks; Wygeston, in Leicestershire; and Tredeneke in Cornwall.

This John lived till the 20th of Queen Elizabeth, but had no issue male by Lucy daughter of Henry earl of Worcester, so that by the marriage of his four daughters and co-heirs, his estate was divided.

Katherine, the first daughter, was married to Henry earl of Northumberland; Dorothy, the second, to Thomas earl of Exeter; Lucy, the third, to Sir William Cornwallis, ancestor to the present lord Cornwallis; Elizabeth, the fourth, to sir John Danvers, knt. from whom is descended the present duke of Leeds, viscount Latimer.

Soon after the death of this last lord Latimer, this lordship came into the family of the Bedingfields,  
of

of Oxburgh, and Edmund Bedingfield, Esq. as lord and patron, presented to this church in 1558; and in this family it continued till it was sold by sir Henry Bedingfield, bart. to Henry Eyre, esq. of Bury's-Hall, about the year 1720, and John Eyre, esq. his brother, sold it to Mr. Penson, of London.

The Church is a single building of flint, &c. and dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin; in length about 27 feet, and about 18 in breadth, and is cover'd with reed. At the west end stands a small four-square tower of flint and brick, and on the top is a little cap of wood cover'd with lead. In this tower hangs one bell. At the east of this nave is the chancel, separated by a gable or wall, near a yard thick, through which is an arch about twelve feet in heighth, and six in breadth, which leads into the chancel, which seems to be much more antique than the body and tower; it is in length about twenty-six feet, and of equal breadth with the body,

This rectory is valued at 4l. 18s. 9d. in the king's books, and was consolidated with North Pickenham, February 27, 1747.

In 1719 Waters Rolf was presented to this rectory by Sir Ralph Hare, bart.

At the death of Rolf, the late Rev. Mr. Say resigned the vicarage of Swaffham, and held this consolidated rectory by union with Beachamwell, he being both rector and patron, in September 1749.

The trustees of Mr. Penson, of London, sold the advowsons of North Pickenham and Houghton to Mr. Say; and in 1764 the Rev. Robert Say, jun. as patron for this turn, presented himself to the rectory.

LANGFORD.

LANGFORD. This town has its name from its long ford over the adjoining river.

In 1626 Thomas Methwold, Esq. was lord.

Afterwards this lordship was sold to Thomas Garrard of London, falter, who was lord in 1648. He married Ann daughter of Francis Jacob, of Creeting, in Suffolk, and was buried in the church of Grace-church street, London; was son of John Gerrard, of Barking, in Essex, and by Ann his wife had Jacob Garrard, of this town, created a baronet August 16, 1662, who married Mary, daughter of Ambrose Jennings, of London, gent. by whom he had sir Thomas Garrard, bart. who married Sarah, daughter of Nicholas Beriman, of Peasonhale, in Suffolk, and had by her Jacob Garrard, of Langford, esq. who died before his father, and left by Abigail his wife; daughter of Sir John Holland, of Quidenham, bart. two daughters; Alathea, married to Sir Francis Bickley, bart. of Attleburgh, in Norfolk, by whom there is no issue, and Sarah, married to Charles, third son of sir George Downing, of East Hatley, in Cambridgeshire, bart. so that this lordship came to sir Nicholas Garrard, bart. second son to sir Thomas, who married Cecilia, daughter of sir Edwin Steed, of Steed's-hall, in Kent, who died in 1727, without issue; and sir Jacob Garrard Downing, bart. and knight of the Bath, succeeded to the lordship, and his legatees enjoyed it, and sold Langford about the year 1750 to Henry Ord, esq. of the Exchequer, (his brother, Robert Ord, was late lord chief baron of Scotland) whose son, about 1775, sold the same to George Nelson, esq. son of George Nelson, esq. late lord mayor of London, and he is the present owner thereof.

Here

Here is now only the manor-house standing, a large, good building of brick, and now turned into a farm-house, to which was a park adjoining.

The church of Langford is dedicated to St. Andrew, and stands near to the manor-house, on the west side of it, and is an ancient fabrick of flint, as appears from the old Gothic arch over the south door, and from the arch that divides the chutch from the chancel: it is a singe building, covered with tiles, as the chancel is.

On a black marble on the pavement—*Here lieth the body of Sir Nicholas Garrard, Bart. who died the 11th of March, Anno Dni. 1727.*

Against the north wall of the chancel is a very large and costly monument of marble and alabaster, raised altar-wise, and with a back or wall-piece; on the body of it lies on a matt the effigy of sir Nicholas Garrard in full proportion, on his right side, and leaning on his right hand, in the dress and habit of an old Roman; at his back is a pedestal, and on that an urn, with a flame, &c. On each side of this pedestal stands an effigy in full length, &c. of alabaster, the one of sir Jacob, the other of sir Thomas Garrard, barts. both in the aforesaid dres. On the pedestal is this inscription:

*Near this place lyе interr'd the Remains of Sir Jacob Garrard, (eldest son and heir of Thomas Garrard, Esq; an eminent, wealthy, and honourable Citizen) the honour of Knighthood was conferred upon him by his pious and royal master King Charles I. in the year 1641, and by King Charles II. he was created a Baronet in the year 1662, having aided and assisted the Royal Family with Men, Money and Arms, in their Distress and Exile, for which*

which he became obnoxious to the Usurpers of Authority, and was try'd by the Committee for raising Supplies as a Delinquent, but nobly defended both his Life and Estate with unshaken Resolution and steadfast Loyalty. He departed this Life in September 1666, having eternized his memory by living acts of Charity, continued Acknowledgments for the Mercy of God received in his Deliverance. He married Mary Jennings, a Lady of exemplary Piety and Virtue, by whom he had many Children, several of which died young, four only surviving, Thomas, Jacob, Isaac and Mary; the eldest son Thomas succeeded his Father in Honour and Estate, the two younger married, but left no surviving Issue; Mary, the Daughter, married with Richard Berney, of Reedham in the County of Norfolk, Esq;

On the basis of the monument, under the figure of sir Nicholas, sir Thomas Garrard, bart. lies, as also doth Sarah his wife near this place: she was the only daughter and heiress of Nicholas Bermen, of Peason-hall in the county of Suffolk, gent. by whom he had nine children, four sons and five daughters; six of them, viz. two sons and four daughters, dying in their minority, were likewise buried here, and two sons and a daughter, viz. Jacob, Nicholas, and Mary survived. Mary married Samuel Kerridge, of Shelley-hall in the county of Suffolk, esq. she departed this life in April 1702, and is likewise interred in this chancel. Jacob, the eldest, married Abigail, daughter of sir John Holland, of Quiddenham in this county, bart. by whom he had several children, who all died infants, except only two daughters, Alathea married to sir Francis Bickley, of Attleborough in this county, bart. by whom she had several children, who all died young; and Sarah, married to Charles Downing, esq. comptroller of his majesty's customs, third son of sir George Downing,

ing, of East Hatley in the county of Cambridge, knight and baronet, by Frances Howard, granddaughter of the Right Hon. the lord William Howard, of Naworth in the county of Cumberland, by him the said Sarah hath had several children, of which the only survivor is Jacob-Garrard Downing, esq. Jacob Garrard died in the life-time of his father sir Thomas Garrard, and is, with his deceased children, interred in this chancel.

Here likewise is deposited the body of sir Nicholas Garrard, bart. third son of sir Thomas Garrard; he succeeded his father in title and estate, lived infinitely beloved, and died equally lamented without issue, the 11th of March, anno Domini 1727, leaving behind him his disconsolate widow, dame Cecilia Garrard, only daughter of sir Edwin Stede, of Stede-hall in the county of Kent, by Cecilia, daughter of sir William Clard, of Ford in Wreatham, in the same county, whose dame Cecilia Garrard, to perpetuate the memory of her dear and entirely beloved husband, together with his worthy ancestors, hath in duty and respect, as much as in obedience to his desire, caused this monument to be erected.

This place being adorned with the insignia, &c. of Richard Garrard, it is worthy notice what Burton observes, p. 97, that a sword was hung up in the church at the funeral of a knight, and not of any person under that degree, because knights at their first dubbing did in former times take an oath to defend religion and the church, and in memorial of that, this weapon was allowed to be hung up there.

The lady Wiche brought an action in the King's Bench against the parson of St. Margaret's church in Lothbury, London, for that the said parson had

taken away a coat armour and certain penons, with the arms of sir Hugh Wiche, her husband, (once lord mayor of London, who died the 7th of Edward IV.) and a sword out of the chapel where he was buried: the parson pleading that these arms, &c. were matters of offering and oblations, and therefore of right did belong to him: but justice Yelverton held it as no plea, and that they are not intended as offerings or oblations, but were hung up in honor of the deceased, and therefore do not belong to the parson. And if the parson has not a right to take these down in his chancel when once hung up, no other person can lay any pretence or claim to them.

This rectory is valued at 4l. 15s. 1od. and the Rev. Thomas Bateman was presented to it in 1758, with the consolidated parish of Ickborough.

NARBURGH, or NARBOROUGH, is so called from its scite, the river Nar running on the north side of it.

This rivulet hath had more monasteries and religious places upon it, than any we know of, viz. Castleacre abbey or priory, Westacre priory, Southacre free chapel or chauncry, the free chapel of sir Thomas Becket by Westacre, Pentney priory, Marham abbey, Wormegay priory, Shouldham abbey or priory, Narford hermitage, Setchy hermitage, &c.

Sir Henry Spelman, in his Icenia, page 142, relates that John Brame, a monk of Thetford, who lived in the reign of Henry IV. in a MSS. History, (quoted frequently by Dr. Caius in his History of Cambridge) maintains Narburgh to have been a city in the time of Uter Pendagron, king of Britain, about the year 500, governed by earl Okenard, that it was besieged

besieged seven months by Waldy, a king in the neighbourhood, who on the taking it, entirely rased it. Though this account may favour too much of the cloister, it is evident that it was a place of eminence in the Saxon age, from its name, and the works adjoining to it.

At this time, a curious large military foss or ditch, with its mound, runs from this town to Beachamwell and Berton, Eastmore fen-ground; by this entrenchment the hundred of Clackclose was so well secured, that no passage or entrance could be into it but by admission here, or over the rivers Ouse, Wifsey and Nar, which surrounded the other parts of it. At the head of this foss, near to Narburgh hall, was a lofty artificial hill, serving as a fort or encampment; at the foot of this hill, about the year 1600, several human bones, and pieces of armour, were dug up, sir Clement Spelman then making a garden there.

This hill was called in evidences the Burgh, or Burrow, and the lands round it retain that name.

From a survey in Mundeford Spelman's time, "Lower Burrow contains ten acres, and is bounded east by Narford, north by the river, and south by the Middle Burrow, which contains six acres, the Upper Burrow contains seven acres and abutts north on Middle Burrow east, on the field, south by the old nursery, and west by the hall walk." So that the scite of the manor is very near, and just under the antient burgh or fortification.

It was a mile long, and ten furlongs broad, and was always valued at 8l.

The family of Narburgh took their name from the town, and were soon after the conquest lords of it.

From the Narburghs, after long proceſs of time, and a very uncertain deſcent of heirs, it came to the Spelmans, a very antient family, and the preſent Rev. Henry Spelman, vicar of this parish, and younger ſon of John Spelman, esq. ſold it to Henry Dashwood, esq. nephew and heir to the late fir Thomas Peyton, bart. who has taken the name of Peyton according to his uncle's will, and has ſince his deceafe been created a baronet by the preſent king Aug. 24, 1776.

WESTACRE MANOR, was in the Spelmans, and now in fir Henry Peyton.

GRADE'S MANOR, was alſo in the Spelmans.

The ancient ſeat of the Spelmans stands about a furlong eaſt of the church, and is caſhed Narburgh-hall; it is for the moſt part buiit of ſtone and brick, and has had a moat about it: it was erected by judge Spelman in the time of Henry VIII.

The name and family of Spelman is of great antiquity.

That great antiquary, and moſt learned knight, fir Henry Spelman, an honour to the college where he was educated, as alſo to the town and county he was born in, was of this family: his *Glossary*; *Hiſtory of Sacrilege*; *Treatise de non temerandis Eccleſijs*, and other numerouſe valuable works, will ſhew poſterity his great learning; his *Icenia*, or *Hiſtory of Norfolk*, which he intended, was the firſt deſign of that

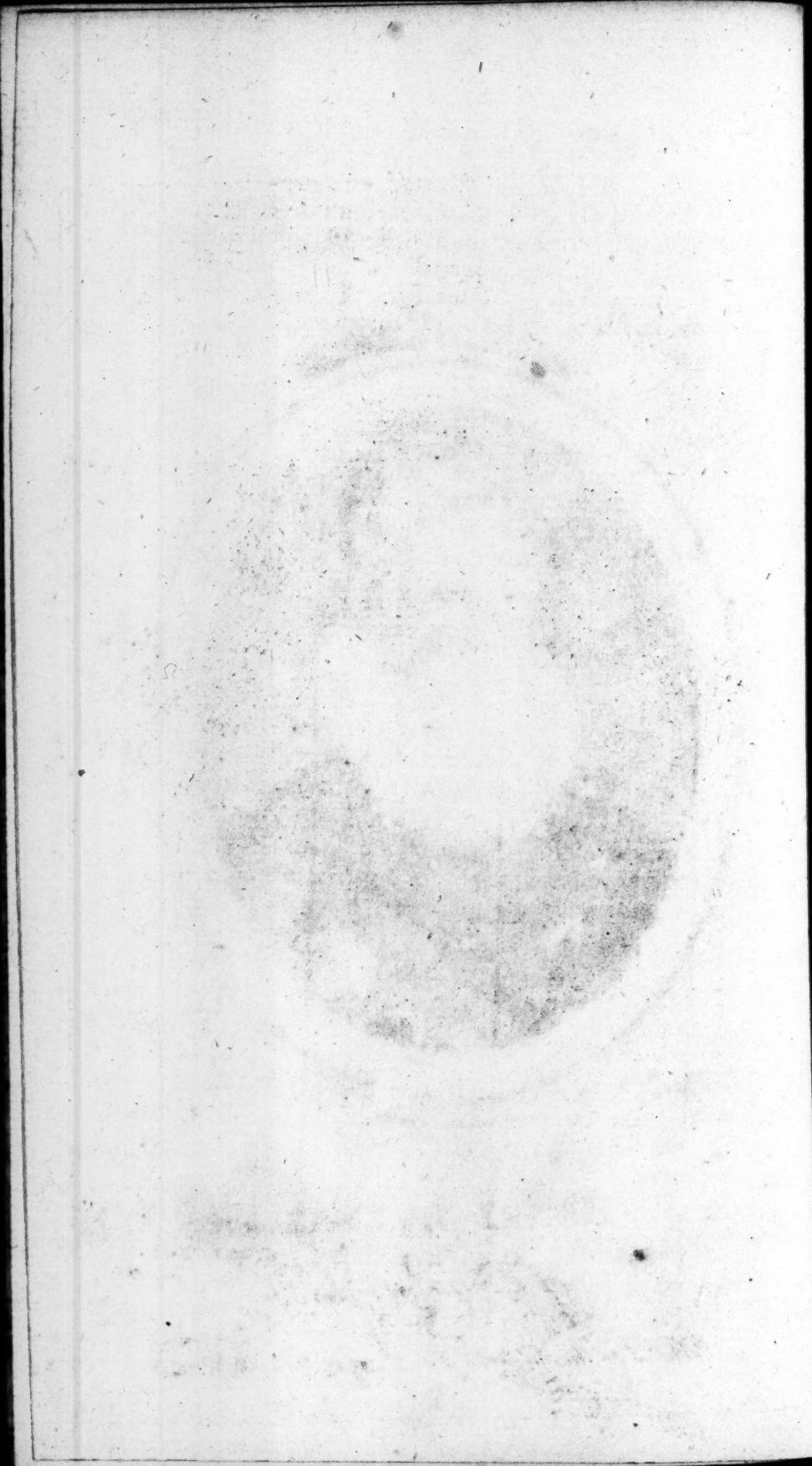


B: Reading sculp.

Sir HENRY SPELMAN, Kn<sup>t</sup>.

*of Narburgh.*

*Published as the Act directs, Dec<sup>r</sup>. 3<sup>d</sup> 1778, by M. Booth, Norwich.*



that kind in relation to this county, and great pity it is, that all his collections on that subject, except the fragment of that name published in his posthumous works, should be dissipated and lost; but to rescue his person from the same fate, the editors of this work have here inserted his likeness, taken from an original picture painted in his own time, in honour of him who was so useful a member to his country, and so great a promoter of the laudable study of the general antiquities of the kingdom, and the particular ones of this his native county: he was sheriff of Norfolk in 1605, and died at London in 1641, having married Eleanor, eldest daughter and co-heir of John L'Estrange, of Sedgeford in this county, esq. by whom he had sir John Spelman, of Heydon in this county, who died at Oxford in 1643, and married Ann, daughter of sir John Townshend, of Rainham.

The church of Narburgh is dedicated to All Saints, and has a nave, a north and a south aisle, and a chancel built of flint, &c. the nave is in length about sixty feet, and about thirty in breadth, including both the aisles, and is covered with reed. The chancel, two aisles, south porch, and north vestry, are all covered with lead. This nave, or body, is of great antiquity.

In the church are the arms of a great many persons of consequence, formerly in this county.

The north aisle, of different form and workmanship from the nave, is not above half the length of it: this is an additional building, and not so antique as the body of the church: aisles, as may be seen from old wills, were frequently added to the nave or body of churches by religious, devout persons, and

were particular chapels or oratories distinct from the church, and dedicated to some saint; here the founder and his family were generally buried, and chauntries were frequently kept, and some priest or priests had annual pensions to officiate and sing mass for the souls departed of the founder and his family; sometimes they were founded by some society or fraternity of persons, called in those days a gild, who also had their priests to officiate in the same manner for those of their society.

A brafs plate under two portraiture;—*To John Eyer, Esq. receiver-general to queen Elizabeth in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridge and Huntingdon, and a master of the high court of Chancery; obiit May 20, 1561; and to his wife Margaret, daughter of sir Thomas Bleverhaiiset, Knt. of Frens; obiit Dec. 15, 1558.*

This John Eyer, as sir Henry Spelman observes in his *History of Sacrilege*, p. 247, was a great purchaser of religious houses that were dissolved by king Henry VIII. and bought of that king the Friars Carmelites, the Grey Friars, the Friars Preachers, or Black Friars, and the Augustine Friars at Lynn, &c. he was possessed also of Bury abbey, and died without issue.

On the pavement near to this monument lies a marble grave-stone, and a brafs plate,—*To Elizabeth Goldyngham, wife of John Goldyngham, Esq; who died the 4th day of February, 1556; and a shield, Goldyngham impaling Spelman.*

At the east end of the nave stands the chancel, in length about thirty feet, and in breadth about eighteen, of the same materials with the church. On the

the pavement of this chancel lie several marble grave-stones, near the east end are these, Spelman, Branthwayte—*To Mundeford Spelman, Esq; who died Jan. 30, 1723. By Julian his wife, daughter of William Branthwayte, of Hethel, Esq; he left issue three sons and one daughter.*

There are mural monuments in memory of many of the ancient and respectable family of Spelman, and of other families, which we have neither room nor inclination to insert here.

At the east end of the north part of the chancel is a small arch in the wall, about seven feet from the ground, and in it lies a demi-statue of a lady carved out of stone, and coup'd at the middle in miniature, being but about a foot long; her head-dress seems very antique; her hands are conjoined on her breast, holding a heart, and she rests on her back; within the arch against the wall, is this inscription only in Saxon characters, in letters of gold,

*DOMINA: AGATHA: A: NARBOROUGH.*

And on each side of this, the arms of Narburgh.

This is a piece of great antiquity, and this lady is said to have died in 1293, and probably the date was formerly inscribed here, for in an old MSS. of monuments, collected about the reign of queen Elizabeth, it is mentioned in this manner, *Dna' Agatha Narborough obijt 1293.*

In the reign of Edward I. the prior and convent of West-acre in Norfolk, held two parts of the great tithes appropriated to them; the third part, or portion,

rion, was then in the patronage of Adam Bigot, and to this there was a rector instituted.

In 1514, the rector was also vicar of Narburgh, to which vicarage this portion was now consolidated, and on the dissolution of Westacre priory, the whole came into the king's hands, and was given to the Spelmans; and in the reign of queen Elizabeth, John Spelman had it, paying 4l. per ann. to the crown: he became the impropriator of the whole rectory, and Mundford Spelman, esq. about the year 1680, gave unto Mr. Carlton, then vicar of Narburgh, all his impropriated tithes of the said parish, and settled them upon him and his successors for ever; which impropriated tithes, at an easy composition, are said to be worth 60l. per ann. of which the far greatest part is paid out of the lands of the said worthy donor, which he hath in the said parish.

The vicars of Narburgh, in 1308, were presented by the convent of Westacre, and nominated by the bishop of Norwich, as they all were to the dissolution in 1535, when the patronage was in the crown.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 9l. 10s.

The Rev. Henry Spelman, the present vicar, has built an elegant house, though small, as a vicarage house, and which is much admired for its neatness and situation: he was presented to this church, with Narford, by the late John Spelman, esq. in 1753.

At the east end of the church-yard are the foundations of a dilapidated chapel, about thirty yards distant from the chancel's end. It was twelve yards long and eight wide.

NARFORD.

NARFORD. This village takes its name from the ford or passage over the river Nar, on the south side of which it stands. In the grand survey it is called Nereforda. Phanceon was then the lord of it, being part of the honour, and held of Alan, earl of Richmond: In the Confessor's time Alfach, a Saxon, was the owner of it; there were then three carucates in domain, and the same at the survey, and six carucates held by the tenants, and four freemen held one carucate of land; there was one mill and the moiety of another, and a fishery, &c. and was a mile in length, and as much in breadth, and paid at the last survey 5l. per annum.

NARFORD, alias OLDHALL MANOR. Phanceon, who was lord at the survey, was most probably the ancestor of the noble family of Narford: He or his immediate descendant might take up that surname from this his lordship, as was the common and general practice of that age, derived from the Normans. That the family of Narford had lands here, and in Norfolk, nigh to the time of the great survey, appears from antient record.

In 1274 Sir William de Narford was lord, and had free warren not only in his domain lands, but of those of other men in this town, which were held of the honour of Richmond, and the bailiffs of the earl of Richmond kept the lete.

This Sir William married Petronilla, one of the daughters and coheirs of Sir John de Vallibus, or Vaux, who brought a very considerable estate to this family, and was one of those great men who were summoned to attend Edward I. at Portsmouth, in an expedition to Gascoigne, in his 22d year, to recover that

that province, and was in that year, and in the 25th of the said king, called to parliament as a baron.

In 1334, Edward III, granted to Sir Thomas de Narford a market and two fairs at Narford.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Edmund Oldhall held here half a fee of the honour of Richmond. This family gave name to this manor, though their interest herein was short, for in the 2d of Henry IV. John Crocket was lord of the manor of Oldhall.

In the 14th of Queen Elizabeth, Richard Beckham had livery of the manors of Narford, called Cockets, and that called Crofts; and John Beckham, esq. died about 1658, lord of the same. He had licence on the 7th of April, in the 7th of Charles I. to alienate the manors of Narford and Sawtrey to Martin Southouse, gent.

WESTACRE MANOR was in the priory of Westacre, and the prior in 1345 paid 20s. for the aid then affessed.

On the dissolution of the priory it came to the crown, and was granted on the 6th of January, in the 2d and 3d of Philp and Mary, to sir Thomas Gresham, founder of the Royal Exchange at London, to be held in Knight's service in capite; about the 26th of Elizabeth, sir Henry Nevile, cousin and heir in right of his wife to the aforesaid Knight, had livery of it.

Narford was lately the property of sir Andrew Fountaine, knt. and now of his heir Brigg Price Fountaine, esq. Sir Andrew built the mansion-house, called Narford-hall, and resided there to his death: It is a seat

seat enriched with many curiosities, many valuable coins, an admired collection of pictures, utns, and other pieces of antiquity. Sir Andrew was celebrated for his great taste by Mr. Pope, and he is said to have purchased for sir Robert Walpole some of the finest paintings at Houghton. This seat is as well deserving the visit of a curious traveller as any in the county of Norfolk, and in general indeed it is visited by strangers who make the tour of this county. From the appearance of the front of the house, which is not extensive, the many inside apartments strike the observer with surprize, as they seem to grow up insensibly to his observation, and he rather wonders where they rise from. There is a very valuable library, many of the books rare and of great curiosity, and the room is adorned with many capital pictures.

The family of Fountaine was originally of Sall in Norfolk, and assumed the surname of De Fonte, or Fontibus, from the springs or fountains that they dwelled by.

The house, says a modern traveller, is a good one, but not the object of view so much as the curiosities it contains, amongst which, nothing is more striking than the cabinet of earthen ware, done after the designs of Raphael; there is a great quantity of it, and all extremely fine. The collection of antique urns, vases, sphinxes, &c. is reckoned a good one; but what gives more pleasure than the venerable remains of this kind, is a small modern sleeping Venus in white marble, by Delveau; which in female softness and delicacy is exceedingly beautiful. The bronzes are very fine.

Paintings,

## PAINTINGS, BUSTOS, &amp;c. at NARFORD.

*In the Hall.*

At the east end, a picture representing the delivery of Achilles, by his mother Thetis, to the centaur Chiron, for education.

On the north side, Europa carried by Jupiter, under the form of a bull, over the Hellespont.

Next the chimney, Arachne turned into a spider by Minerva.

On the left of the chimney, Narcissus.

On the south side, the centaur Nessus carrying away Dejanira, the wife of Hercules.

Over the door to the east, Susanna and the two elders.

Its companion, Angelica and Medar, from Tasso.

Over the door to the north, the death of Lucretia.

Over the door to the west, Sophonisba poisoning herself. These are by Pelegrini.

Over the chimney, a portrait of lord Burlington, who made sir Andrew Fountaine a present of these pictures.

On the table next the chimney, a busto of the emperor Hadrianus.

On each side two antique sphinxes.

On the other table, a sleeping Venus, very fine, by Monsieur Delveau.

On the stair-case are the portraits of the reigning princes of England, beginning at the top with king James I. down to king George II. by different hands.

A Dutch market, the figures by Rubens, and the fruit by Snyders, very fine.

Some antique bustos and relievos.

*The Billiard Room.*

To the north, the large picture representing the marriage of the Sea at Venice, an annual ceremony, after Tintoretto.

St. Thomas with a dead Christ, in the manner of A. Duror.

On each side the door, two landscapes representing the good Samaritan, by Sebastian Burdon.

Under the large picture, a landscape, by Rosa de Tivoli.

A Dutch fair, after Wouvermans.

A landscape, the journey into the Wilderness from Egypt, by Berghem.

On the east side, Danae and the golden shower, after Titian, by Poussin.

On each side, two sea pieces, by Van Veld.

Dutch boors, by Hemskirk.

The inside of the church at Antwerp, by Tenif.

Three cupids in a chariot drawn by doves, by Albano.

A piece of architecture.

A Dutch piece, by Hemskirk.

A landscape.

Over the door on the left hand, a musician, after Mola.

Over ditto on the right, Glaucus, and Scylla, by Salvator Rosa.

Titus's arch, by N. Poussin.

A fine landscape with cattle, by Tintoretto.

Over it, a battle piece, by Mich. Angelo della Battaglia.

A fine whole length of Mary de Medicis, by C. Jansen.

In the bed-chamber next the painter's room. Two landscapes in the style of Huisman of Mechlin.

*On the Stair Case.*

A piece of sculpture of Prometheus chained to a rock, by Cavalier David.

A fine head of a boy, antique.

Several antique statues.

*In the Dining Parlour.*

Over the chimney, a bas relief of the Roman charity, by Camillo Rosconi.

Three antique busts.

On the right of the chimney, a portrait of a Dutch burgo-master, by Simon de Vos.

On the left of ditto, a portrait of Sir T. Chicely, master of the ordnance, by Dobson.

On the south side, behind the door, a portrait of the earl of Portland, when ambassador in France, by Rigeau.

A portrait of a Duke of Richmond, of the Stewart family, by A. Vandyck.

On the right of the door, a portrait of a lady, by Cornelius Jansen.

Its companion, a portrait of sir Henry Spelman, by ditto.

*The little withdrawing Room.*

On the right hand of the door, a Holy Family, by Titian.

Over it, a portrait of a youth, by sir Peter Lely.

Over the chimney, a portrait of Vandyck, by himself.

On the north side, Galatea, after Raphael, by Andrea Sacchi.

Two landscapes, by old Brueghel.

On the left of the door, to the north, the death of Absalom, by M. Angelo della Battaglia.

A picture

A picture of horses, by Wouvermans.

St. Jerome, in the stile of Titian.

To the west, on the right of the window, a Madonna, by Andrea Schiavoni.

Below it, a view of Boxhill, near Epsom, by Wyk.

On the right of the door, the angel and Tobit, by Lanfranc.

*In the Closet*

Is a very curious collection of earthen ware, painted from the designs of Raphael Urbino, John d'Udina, &c. It is the largest collection in England.

*Blue Drawing Room.*

Over the chimney, a fine picture of the children of Israel gathering manna, by A. Bloemart.

The marriage in Cana, by old Franks.

Behind the door, a bravo, by Spagrioret,

An old woman, by M. A. Caravagio.

A portrait of Rambeqt, a disciple of Rubens, by himself. scarce.

Julius Cæsar, and its companion, an emblem of victory, by Julio Romano, out of the collection of king Charles I.

Two landscapes, hand unknown.

A very fine picture of spaniels, by Fyt.

A bull hunting, its companion, by Rosa di Tivoli.

A fine picture of the Holy Family, by Andrea del Sarto.

A Bacchus, by Poffin

A portrait, by Vandyck.

Underneath, on the right, an usurer and lady, by Rembrandt.

The interview of king Henry VIII. and Ann of Cleves, by H. Holbein, or John of Mabuse.

Over the door, St. John in the Wilderness, by An-nibal Caracci.

A young Roman, by M. Ang. Caravaggio.

A flower piece, by old Baptist.

*Stucco Dining-Room,*

Is hung with family pictures.

*The Picture Closet.*

Apollo and Daphne, by Simone Memmi, a disci-  
ples of Giotto.

On the right, at the top, a Madona and Child,  
by Albert Durer.

Ditto, its companion, by a scholar of Raphael  
Urbino.

Part of the Holy Family, by Vanderwerf.

Its companion, ditto, by Carlo Maratti.

At the bottom, on the right, a Holy Family, by  
Le Loire.

In the middle, Correggio's family, by Correggio.

Its companion, a Holy Family, hand unknown.

On the left, Moses found by Pharaoh's daughter,  
by Tintoretto.

The crucifixion, by Magnasci.

A head of Rubens's wife, by Rubens.

The adoration of the shepherds, in the stile of  
Correggio.

In the middle, the ascension, by Solimeni.

On the left, the conversion of St. Paul on marble,  
by Pietro Cantarini.

Two old men, by Quintin Matsys of Antwerp.

Two battle pieces, by Burgigoni.

On the left, our Saviour curing the blind, by Old  
Franks.

A Colombine and Pierot, by Vatteau.

A landscape, by Wooyermans.

A Ma-

- A Madona, by Carlo Dolci.  
 A Flemish merry-making, by P. Angelles.  
 The death of St. Sebastian, by Tintoretto.  
 On the west side, at the top, two fine landscapes,  
 by Salvator Rosa.  
 In the middle, our Saviour in the garden, by P.  
 le Genoese.  
 On the left, a Holy Family, by Schidoni.  
 On the right, two cupids, by N. Poussin.  
 A head of old Dobson on paper, by Dobson.  
 On the right hand, Euridice wounded by a serpent,  
 by Poelenburch.  
 On the left, the feast of St. Cæcilia, on marble,  
 by Van Balen.  
 Two boys heads, by Francis Hals.  
 Three children of the earl of Dorset's, by H.  
 Holbein.  
 A Bacchanalian, by Pelegrini.  
 A Sacrifice, by J. Ricci.

*In the Dressing-Room.*

- To the east, Galatea, by Ricci.  
 Two views of Venice, by Gagnaletti.  
 A cupid, by Joseppi Chiari.  
 The labourers in the vineyard, by Domenico Fetti,  
 very fine.  
 Over the cabinet, a sacrifice, by N. Poussin.  
 Its companion, by ditto.  
 Moses found by Pharaoh's daughter, by Pelegrini.

*The Library*

Is forty feet by twenty-one; in it are several anti-  
 que Roman and Egyptian vases.

*The Library Closet.*

To the east, the middle picture is St. Cæcilia, a copy from a picture by Carlo Maratti, in the collection of the earl of Orford, by J. Davis, esq. of Wat-

lington.

On each side, two pictures, by Pietro di Pietris.

A vestal virgin, by J. Raoux.

A Holy Family, by N. Beretoni.

On each side, two Holy Families, by Carlo Maratti.

Over the chimney are several antique bronzes.

The Apollo with the golden drapery is antique.

A vestal virgin, by Carlo Maratti.

The library, which is every way beautifully fitted up, and well filled with books of true value, and some of great curiosity, hath also the pictures of the following famous men.

- |                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Titian.              | 17. Waller.               |
| 2. Aretin.              | 18. Dr. Pocock.           |
| 3. Inigo Jones.         | 19. Ben Johnson.          |
| 4. Palladius.           | 20. William Shakespeare.  |
| 5. Laniere.             | 21. Cardinal Mazarine.    |
| 6. Reubens.             | 22. Marshall Turenne.     |
| 7. Dr. Aldridge.        | 23. Butler.               |
| 8. Earl of Montross.    | 24. C. Cotton.            |
| 9. Gustavus Adolphus.   | 25. Cowley.               |
| 10. Alexander Septimus. | 26. Duke of Devonshire.   |
| 11. Prince Rupert.      | 27. Archbishop Tillotson. |
| 12. Sir Kenelm Digby.   | 28. Earl of Pembroke.     |
| 13. Sir John Maynard.   | 29. Dr. Wallis.           |
| 14. Admiral Blake.      | 30. Dr. Mead.             |
| 15. Dr. Prideaux.       | 31. Dr. Ratcliff.         |
| 16. Cornelius Jansen.   |                           |

The

The first of the family of the Fountaines lived in the reign of Henry III. about the year 1265.

After many generations and different heirs in the same family, lived John eldest son of Arthur Fountaine, of Sall: he married Mary daughter and heiress of James Brigge, of Sall, in whose right this family have ever since quartered the arms of Brigge

Brigg Fountaine, esq. died in 1661, and by Joanna eldest sister of Robert Henley, esq. he had Andrew Fountaine, esq. who married Sarah eldest daughter of sir Thomas Chicheley, who lies interred in a vault at the east end of the south aisle of Narford church, and a mural monument against the south wall there, is thus inscribed:

" In the vault adjoining lies the body of Andrew Fountaine, of Sall in this county, esq. who died the 7th of October, 1661, and of Joanna Henly, eldest sister of Robert Henly, Esq; who succeeded the duke of Buckingham in the mastership of the King's-Bench office: the said Andrew served in three several sessions of parliament in the reign of king Charles II. He married Sarah Chicheley, youngest daughter of sir Thomas Chicheley, master of the ordnance, chancellor of the dutchye of Lancaster, and privy councellour to king Charles and James II. by whom he had several children, and left surviving, sir Andrew, Brig, and Elizabeth, ob. 1<sup>m</sup> Februarij 1706, Aet. LXXIV."

Elizabeth, sister of sir Andrew, married colonel Edward Clent, of Knightwick in Worcestershire, afterwards of Norfolk, by whom he left one only daughter,

Elizabeth, married to capt. William Price, who left only one son, the present Brigg Fountaine, esq. and is interred in the family vault at Narford.

Brigg Fountaine, esq. served the office of high sheriff for this county in the year 1775.

Sir Andrew Fountaine died at Narford, and was interred in the family vault. He was esteemed to be one of the politest and best bred men of his age, and was remarkably neat in his person.

January 15, 1725, John Anstis, Garter King at arms, by order of George I. granted by patent to sir Andrew Fountaine, knt. then vice-chamberlain to the princeps of Wales, and tutor to his highness prince William, for whom he was installed (as proxy) Knight of the honourable order of the Bath, supporters to his arms, viz. on either side a lion gul. with wings erected or, with the old family motto, *VIX. EA. NOSTRA. VOCO*, and the ancient arms of Fountaine, or, a fess gul. between three elephants heads erased fab.

The Romans appear to have had a station at this place, many Roman bricks being found by the workmen about the hall, and sir Andrew Fountaine dug up a Roman vase in the hall-yard.

There was also a chapel here formerly, for many human bones, and a stome coffin were dug up: this was the cell and chapel of some hermit, for they generally chose their station near some frequented road or passage over a river, as this was.

This

## SOUTH GREENHOE. 71

This village now consists of but two or three houses, besides the hall; but that it was considerable in the reign of Edward III. appears from his grant of a market and two fairs here to sir Thomas de Nerford, and the court-rolls of the manor in the reign of Henry VI. shew that there were then above one hundred dwelling-houses, besides an hamlet called Custhorpe, or Cowsthorpe, situated in the meadows, near the river towards West-acre; and mention of it is made in the 7th of Charles I.

The church of Narford is a small regular building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, consisting of a nave, a north and south aisle, with a chancel, all covered with lead; and at the west end of the nave stands a four-square tower, with three bells, on which sir Andrew Fountaine erected a spire of wood and painted, with a weather-cock and ball, gilt. The south porch is tiled.

At the west end of the nave lies a grave-stone, having a cross pattee carved on the summit of a staff, the insignia of some Knight Templar.

In the chancel, under the north wall, with an arch raised over it, lies a marble stone, with a cross floral carved on it, in memory of the founder.

In the beginning of the reign of Edward I. we find that the prior of West-acre had the rectory here appropriated to him, and the patronage of the vicarage was in that priory.

When the lease of the great tithes of this town (which were granted to the see of Ely in queen Elizabeth's

zabeth's time) was renewed by Dr. Lany, bishop of Ely, an augmentation of 10l. per ann. was reserved to this vicar and his successors, to be paid by the lessee, who is patron of the vicarage. Before this, it appears from the accounts of the receiver-general of the court of augmentation in the reign of Henry VIII. that a yearly pension was paid and accounted for by him of 1l. 13s. 4d. as an augmentation to the vicar of Narford for ever, out of the lands late belonging to West-acre priory, and the same pension we find to be continued and paid by the receiver-general in the 13th of queen Elizabeth.

It appears from the will of Richard Rand in 1417, that there were then standing in the church-yard a chapel, dedicated (as the church was) to St. Mary; and in 1465, John Broshard by will gave legacies to the gild of St. Mary, to that of the Holy Trinity, and to that of St. Mary's chapel in the church-yard, the foundations of which may still be seen in the north part of the church-yard, at some distance from the church.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 6l. 13s. 4d. The Rev. Mr. Henry Spelman is the present vicar, and holds it with Narburgh, to which he was presented by the late J. Spelman, esq. in 1753.

In that part of the parish of West-acre, which lies on the south side of the river Nar, and is consequently in this hundred, on a hill about half a furlong from the river, between South-acre and Narford, are the ruins of a chapel, commonly called Becket's Chapel; it being dedicated to St. Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury; on the day of whose translation, viz. July the 7th, there is an annual fair held here, which in 1478 was granted by Edward

Edward IV. to the prior of West-acre, to which monastery this was a cell. The custos, or master, and two or three monks his brethren, dwelt in a house joined to the north-east part of the chapel, and performed divine service daily, it standing by the pass over the river, where the pilgrims and other travellers passed by Castle-acre to Our Lady at Walsingham. The chapel was sixty feet long and thirty broad, and its cemetery or burial-place was walled in, and was as many yards in breadth and length.

NECTON, or NEIGHTON. In king Edward the Confessor's time, Harold, who was afterwards king of England, was lord of this town; which on the conquest was given by the Conqueror to one of his lords and followers, Ralph de Tony, and at the survey he held it.

This Ralph de Tony was with the Conqueror at the battle of Hastings, and for his services had the grant of this lordship, with many others of this county. &c. he was son of Robert de Tony, a great Norman baron, who was standard bearer of Normandy.

From this family it descended in the reign of Henry VI. to the Nevilles, earls of Warwick, and was in the 3d of Henry VII. released by Ann countess of Warwick, to that king, and remained in the crown till it was granted on the 27th of June, in the 2d and 3d of Philip and Mary, as is expressed in the patent, to her beloved and faithful counsellor, sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, being parcel of the possessions called Warwick lands, with the wood called Necton wood, and park; the manor of West-acre, in Grimston, and Congham; the manor of Hillington, called the Abbot's manor; the manor of Uphall

Uphall, alias Ashill, Collards and Games, with the advowson of the church of Ashill, in consideration of his surrendering a pension of 100l. per annum, granted him by the said queen for life, for his services at Framlingham, in the late rebellion, and also in exchange for the manors of Wald Newton and Baynton, in Yorkshire, granted as above: In this family it continued till it was sold to Henry Eyre, esq. of Bures-hall, in Hale, whose brother, Dr. Eyre, had it.

It has within these few years been purchased by the late Daniel Collyer, esq. of Wroxham; and his heir, the Rev. Mr. Daniel Collyer, of Wroxham, is the present lord of it.

**SPARHAM-HALL, COCKETS, alias CORBET'S, and CHURCHMAN'S.** Sparham-hall lordship was a part granted from the capital manor of Neclon, by Roger de Tony, father of Ralph, to Roger de Clifford.

Afterwards it came into the family of the Cockets, and from them took its name.

To this lordship belonged a free chapel, called Sparham chapel.

This chapel was entirely demolished at the dissolution in Henry VIII. and the revenues granted by this prince to the rectory of Neclon.

The advowson and impropriation of this rectory was sold in 1719, to John Rolf Clark, and his heir sold them to Mr. Benjamin Young, attorney at law, in Swaffham, and at his death Mrs. Mary Young, widow, had them for life, they being settled on the Rev. William Young, of Caius College, but now of Swaffham, her second son, and his heirs.

This

This impropriation being a lay fee, was ever since the dissolution rented by the rectors, as it now is, there being paid 35l. per annum to the patron for it, and before the Reformation, the rectors rented it at 40s. per annum, paid to the prior of West-acre.

The church of Necton is dedicated to All Saints, and is a beautiful and elegant structure; it consists of a nave, a north and south aisle of flint, &c. covered with lead, the roof of the nave is of oak, curiously wrought and embellished.

At the west end of the nave stands a large and lofty square tower of flint, coped and embattled with free-stone, in which is a ring of five good bells. At the west end of the church lie several grave-stones, one in memory of John Mason, of Necton, gent. who died November 19th, 1712, in the 65th year of his age. A second in memory of Frances, wife of John Mason, of Necton, gent. who died November 2d, 1720, in the 67th year of her age. A third in memory of Elizabeth, daughter of John and Frances Mason, who died March 17th, 1702, in the 8th year of her age.

At the lower end of the nave is a stone in memory of Richard Mason, esq. who died December 15th, 1722, in the 37th year of his age. Near to this one in memory of John Mason, son of Richard Mason, and Frances his wife, who died January 4th, 1714. One with Mason, arg. a fess, and in chief two lions heads coup'd azure.

In 1749, the Rev. Thomas Patrick Young was instituted at the presentation of Mary Young, of Swaffham, widow, to the rectory and vicarage, consolidated July 11, 1718. On Mrs. Young's decease Mr. J. P. Young

Young became patron, and in 1752 presented the Rev. William Young, of Swaffham, younger brother to Benjamin Young, esq. late captain lieutenant in the Welsh Fuzileers, who served many years in that regiment. Captain Young lies buried in the church at Swaffham.

This parish has an estate belonging to it, let at 65l. per annum, and one let at 5l. 10s. per annum, and several alms-houses near the church, the profits of which are principally to repair and adorn the parish church, and what annually remains overplus, to be applied towards the maintenance of the poor, highways, and other common benefits of the parish.

NEWTON, by Castle-acre, is a little village on the north side or point of the hundred.

In the 28th of Henry VIII. Thomas Beckham held it, after Beckham sir William Turner, of East Basham, then Thomas Termar, esq. then Sir Robert Dynne, then Mr. Briggs, and about 1571, John Laxford, and Edmund Laxford in 1637: About the middle of the last century, Mr. John Nabs, whose daughter being married to Riches Brown, gent. they conveyed it to Mr. Thomas Patrick, of Castle-acre, by whose daughter and heir Helen, it came by marriage to Matthew Halcote, of Litcham, and his grandson Matthew Halcote, Esq. of Howe, who left it to Captain Halcote, the present lord, a gentleman who was formerly in the East India service.

The church of Newton is dedicated to All Saints, has a body or nave with a chancel of flint and boulder covered with thatch; between the nave and chancel is a low four-square tower with quoins of free-stone, with a wooden cap or cover; through the arch

of

of this tower is the passage between the nave and chancel. In the tower hang two bells, and the staircase served also for the rood-loft, part of which is still standing. This is the only church in the deanries of Cranwich and Fincham, built in this collegiate or cathedral fashion. The old church of Westminster, built by the Confessor, is generally said to have been the first that was erected in England of this model, and it is probable that this was built about the same age, having the face of great antiquity, being a low, dark and heavy pile; the whole length is about sixty-seven feet, and about sixteen in breadth.

The vicarage is valued in the king's books at 1l. 15s. and there is service here once in a fortnight only. The church is in a very bad condition.

The Rev. Joshua Crofts was presented to the vicarage of Newton by Castle-acre, by the lord bishop of Ely 1762.

**OXBURGH**, or **OXBOROUGH**, in Domesday-book is called **Oxenburch**, taking its name from its scite on the Ouse, or Wissey, a river navigable from hence to Cambridge; Lynn, &c. thus, Oxford from a ford over the Ouse; and this name it very well answers, as being a peninsula surrounded by this and two or three other rivulets, except in the north east point. The adjunct word Burgh bespeaks its eminence, shewing it have been some fortified town, and place of strength, and besides its natural scite above observed, about half a mile from the town to the north west, on a place called the Warren-hill, may be observed a very deep vallum or trench adjoining. The word Burgh may also signify some remarkable place of burial, and about the limits of the town are several tumuli, three or four near one another, on the common

common, a little south of the church and town; and by the river that divides the town from the common (near the said tumuli) are several places contiguous, about four or five yards long, and two or three broad, having the earth sunk a little, where it may be justly concluded many persons who fell in some battle were interred, those little pits being called by antient people the Danes graves.

That it was a place of account in the time of the Romans, appears from coins of silver and brass found here, two of Constantine being a few years past recovered, and that it continued so in the Saxon age appears from coins of their kings, an Aedelred being not long since dug up. In the time of the Danes it was (and probably before) in royal hands, and Canute, their king, having made Turchill or Turketell, a Dane, and one of their chief leaders, earl of the East-Angles, he became governor and lord of the town, as he was of Attleborough, the cities of Thetford and Norwich, as places of strength and eminence; so that the Iciana, a Roman station, might be with some shew of reason and justice presumed to have been here.

William the Conqueror gave this lordship to Ralph de Limesio, a Norman baron, his sister's son, on whom he bestowed forty-one manors in several counties, with the lands of Christina, one of the sisters of prince Edgar, grandson of king Edmund Ironside, who was brother to Edward the Confessor.

One moiety afterwards came by marriage to David de Lindsey, a Scot, in the reign of Henry III. but his son David and his brothers dying without issue, his moiety in this lordship came to sir Henry de Pinkeney, knt. by the marriage of Alice, sister and heir

heir to David, and by his son sir Henry, it was by deed granted to his kinsman sir William Odingfells, lord of the other moiety in right of his mother.

In the 3d of Edward I. Nicholas de Weyland was found to be lord, and to hold it of Robert Burnel, and he of Odingfells, the capital lord. This Nicholas married Julian, daughter and heir of the said Robert, and had the manor of Garboldisham in this county, of 10l. per ann. given him by Robert Burnel, and probably this also.

On the 20th of January, in the 12th of Edward I. he had a confirmation of a market and fair, and on the 12th of May, in the following year of the said king, had a grant of another fair for two days, on the vigil, and the day of the Assumption; also one for eight days every year, on the vigil, day and morrow after the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, and for five days following, and of free-warren in all his demeans.

In the 15th year of the said king, sir Nicholas de Weyland, knt. had these following privileges of this lordship allowed in Eyre, view of frank-pledge, assise of bread and beer, gallows, pillory, tumbrel, waif and stray, the aforesaid three fairs in the year, and the weekly market: all which bespeak this town to have been in that age a place of consequence, capable of great reception; and it appears from many old ruins and foundations, to have been in length (from the closes nigh to Gooderstone common, where the old road laid to the town, to the entrance of the low ground by Oxburgh hithe) above a mile and an half; about thirty houses and cottages having been pulled down, &c. in the space of about thirty years.

All

All these fairs were kept regularly and annually (as appears from the court-rolls of the manor) till about the reign of queen Elizabeth, and one fair still continues to be kept at the Annunciation, where horses and cows are brought to be sold, and tradesmen resort with their goods.

In 1315, sir William de Weyland, knt. was lord.

From the Weylands this lordship came to the Tudenhams, and from the Tudenhams to the Bedingfields, by marriage.

Sir Thomas Tudenham married Alice, daughter of John Wodehouse, esq. before he was of age, and in 1436, Nov. 22, on a full hearing of the cause, at Lynn, before the chancellor of Norwich, the prior of Lynn, &c. he was divorced from her, on proof, and her own confession of adultery; she had before this left him, and was at that time a nun, professed at Crabhouse in Wiggenhall, in Norfolk, and he had power to re-marry. But the close of his life was yet more unfortunate, for in February 1461, John Earl of Oxford, Aubrey his son and heir, this sir Thomas, John Clopton, John Montgomery, and William Tyrrel, esq. were arrested by John earl of Worcester, constable of England, on suspicion of having received letters from Margaret wife of Henry VI. and being convicted in court by the said earl of Worcester, were all beheaded (except Clopton) on Tower-hill, on the 22d of February, 1461.

On the same day he made his will in the Tower, and gave to John Lord Wenlock this manor, those of Caldecote, Shingham, and Sparham, with the fourth part of the barony of Bedford, for life; but soon after, these, with the rest of his inheritance, were delivered

to Margaret sister and sole heir to sir Thomas, relict of Edmund Bedingfield, esq. of Bedingfeld in Suffolk. It appears that as heir to her brother, she died seised of the lordships of Erefwell, Westerfield, Brandeston, Charsfeld, Cotton-hall, Belings Magna, Groundesburgh, Fen-hall, Newton, Elvedon, Tuddenham, Chamberlain's, Shardelow's and Carbonel's; also of the fourth part of the manor of Whatfield, and lands in Kediton in Suffolk; the lordships of Oxburgh, Setchy, Sparham-hall, Shingham, Caldecote, Fouldon, Tyes, and Aldenham in Weston, 10l. yearly rent out of the manor of Gardoldisham in Norfolk, and the manor of Abington Parva in Cambridgeshire.

Her will is dated at Erefwell, the 24th of May 1474, and was proved by the bishop of Norwich, she being, as is there expressed, "*Nobilis et Arma Gerens:*" she bequeaths her body to be buried before the image of the holy cross, near the altar of the Virgin, in the nave of the church of St. Peter of Erefwell; 40l. for vestments, books, and necessary ornaments, and to the repair of the church; 53s. 4d. for a vestment, in which her chauntry-priest was to officiate on high festivals, before the altar of the blessed Virgin, and 40s. for another to officiate in other holidays. To St. Laurence's chapel at Erefwell, 53s. 4d. and ten marks to the poor dwelling in her manor of Erefwell, and other her manors in Suffolk and Norfolk; an house, with gardens, pastures, meadow-grounds, and forty-two acres of land, with liberty of faldage, and certain rents and services thereto belonging, for a chauntry-priest to officiate daily in the church of St. Peter, for her soul, and that of her father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, husband, children, brother, &c. To the monastery of Brufyard in Suffolk, where her

mother was buried, 100*s.* and to the nuns there 100*s.* to the Augustine Friars in London, where her brother (sir Thomas) was buried, 20*l.* and that a good and decent marble stone be bought to cover his body, and the residue to be divided amongst the friars there. To the church of Bedingfield, where her husband was buried, 4*s.* 8*d.* for a vestment in memory of her and her husband. To the Friars Minors at Babewell, 2*s.* 8*d.* the same sum to the Carmes at Ipswich ; to the friars preaching at Thetford 20*s.* to the Augustine Friars there 20*s.* and to the nuns there 10*s.* To the repair of Redingfeld nunnery 10*s.* to the repair of Carrowe nunnery 10*s.* and to the nuns there 10*s.* To the nuns of Shouldham 20*s.* to be distributed amongst them. To the repair of the church of Belings Magna 5*s.* 8*d.* a silver cup to the altar of the Virgin in the church of Ereswell ; to every priest assisting at mals on the day of her sepulture 8*d.* to every clerk 2*d.* to every poor man and woman at her burial praying for her soul 2*d.* and to every poor boy 2*d.* and to the lady Alice Tudenham, a nun at Crabhouse, ten marks.

The will of her husband, Edmund Bedingfeld, esq. is dated at Bedingfeld in Suffolk, 4th of June 1451, and was proved on the 20th of July following : he bequeaths his body to be buried in the church-yard of Bedingfeld ; gives to Margaret his wife all the goods and chattels which Margaret Tudenham, (daughter of John Herlyng, esq.) her mother, had given her ; to Thomas his son and heir twelve silver spoons and a covered cup, which was his father's ; and to Edmund, son and heir of Thomas, a silver cup.

These wills are of undoubted truth and record, and must silence a great and prevailing mistake made by

by sir Henry Spelman in his *Icenia*, (and by others copied after him) where he asserts, that the above-mentioned Edmund Bedingfield and sir Thomas Tudenharn being in different interests, the first attached to the House of York, the other to that of Lancaster, entered into a most solemn compact; Bedingfield engaging, if his party prevailed, to intercede in the behalf of Tudenharn, who was to perform the like good offices for Bedingfield. The House of York prevailing in the time of Edward IV. Bedingfield broke his faith, so solemnly plighted, begged and obtained the estate of his brother Tudenharn, and left him in the hands of justice to be beheaded.

Edmund Bedingfield, whose memory is so ill treated, appears to have died above ten years before the sentence passed, &c. on his brother-in-law Tudenharn; neither Edmund nor his son and heir, Thomas Bedingfield, inherited it, dying in 1453, before his uncle sir Thomas; and his mother, Margaret, first enjoyed it: and on her decease it came to her grandson, Edmund son of Thomas, of which Edmund, Alice duchess of Suffolk, by her deed, dated the 1st of December, in the 33d of Henry VI. 1454, grants the custody and wardship, being then a minor, to his great uncle, sir Thomas Tudenharn aforesaid.

This Edmund, son of Thomas, married first Alice daughter of sir Ralph Shelton, by whom he had no issue male: his second lady was Margaret daughter of sir John Scot, of Scot's-hall in Kent, and comptroller of Calais. On the coronation of Richard III. he was created a Knight of the Bath, and was so highly in favour with Henry VII. for his eminent services, that he paid him a royal visit at Oxburgh, (the room where he lodged being called

the King's Room to this day) and rewarded him with several valuable lordships in Yorkshire, forfeited to the crown on the attainder of the lord Lovel : his will is dated at Calais, on the 12th of October 1496, and was proved the 28th of January following ; he bequeaths his body to be buried in the church of Oxburgh, before the holy Trinity, and gives 40l. to lead the church of Caldecote.

This sir Edmund had a royal patent from Edward IV. dated July 3, 1482, to build the present manor-house or hall of Oxburgh, with towers, embattlements, &c. "*More castelli*," in the form of a castle ; and for a weekly market in this town on Friday, with a pye-powder court, to be kept by the steward or bailiff of the said market.

This ancient seat stands a little south-west of the church of Oxburgh ; being built of brick, it very much resembles Queen's college in Cambridge, built also in the same reign : the present entrance to it is over a bridge of brick, with three great arches, and embattled with free stone, (formerly over one of wood, with its draw-bridge) through a grand majestic tower, the arch whereof is about twenty-two feet long and thirteen broad ; to this tower adjoin four turrets, one at each corner, of the same materials with the tower, brick, coped also and embattled with free-stone, projecting and octangular ; the two in front are about eighty feet or more from the foundation in the moat to the summit, and about ten feet above the great tower.

The court-yard (about which stands the house) is one hundred and eighteen feet long and ninety-two broad, Opposite to the great tower on the south side of the court stands the hall, in length about fifty-four

four feet, and thirty-four in breadth, between the two bow-windows; the roof is of oak, (in the same stile and form with that of Westminster) equal in height to the length of it, and being lately very elegantly ornamented and improved, may be justly accounted one of the best old Gothic halls in England.

The outward walls of the house stand in the moat, which is pure running water, (fed by an adjoining rivulet) about two hundred and seventy feet long, and fifty-two broad on every side, and faced with brick on the side opposite to the house, and can be raised to the depth of about ten feet of water, or let out as occasion serves.

This venerable mansion, which at first view impresses the mind with an idea of the grandeur and antiquity of the family, as richly deserves the attention of a curious traveller as any family-seat in Norfolk; and being so near the turnpike-road to Lynn at Stoke, (scarcely two miles) it is wonderful that any who make the tour of Norfolk should pass it unseen, being the noblest and most perfect remnant of antiquity in this county. King Edward IV. when he granted a patent for the building it, gives permission for it to be erected, *more castelli*, as observed before; but probably the priests of the times got about the founder, and diverted him from his original intention, for Oxburgh hall wears more the aspect of a college or monastery than of a castle. It is somewhat singular of this spacious building, that though the foundations are in a moat, and a river runs round the whole, all the apartments and rooms are free from damps, and it is perhaps the driest house in the kingdom of its extent and dimensions.

Sir Thomas Bedingfield, eldest son of sir Edmund the founder, dying without issue, and Robert, the second son, being in holy orders, the inheritance descended to

Sir Edmund, the third son, who attended king Henry VIII. in his wars abroad, and was knighted by Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, general of the English army at Montdedier in France, on the taking of that town in 1523. By his lady Grace, daughter of the lord Marny, he had

Sir Henry Bedingfield, his son and heir, who was one of those gentlemen that appeared in arms at Framlingham in Suffolk, in defence of queen Mary, and her title to the crown, and brought with him one hundred and forty men completely armed. By her he was appointed knight marshal of her army, captain of her guards, and on the 28th of October, 1555, was made governor of the tower of London, and one of the privy-council, in 1557 vice-chamberlain to the queen, had a pension of 100l. per ann. assigned him for life, and part of the estate of sir Thomas Wyatt, forfeited on his rebellion.

His son Edmund, by Ann, daughter of sir Robert Southwell, of Hoxne in Suffolk, had Thomas, his son and heir, who by an inquisition taken on the 30th of July, in the 32d of queen Elizabeth, at Swaffham, was found to die seised of the manors of Oxburgh, Caldecote manor held of Elizabeth, wife of sir John Denham, Setchy manor, Shingham manor, held of the crown as of the honour of Clare, East-hall manor in Cley, held of the crown as of the honour of Clare, West-hall manor in Cley, held of the crown as of the honour of Richmond, the rectory of Cley St. Peter's held of the crown, the hundred of

of South Greenhoe, held of the crown *in capite* by half a fee, an annuity of 10l. per ann. issuing out of the manor of Garboldisham, Ickburgh manor and advowson, held of the honour of Clare, Necton manor with its appurtenances, Ashill manor, Uphall, Collard's, Game's, &c. held *in capite*, with the advowson of the church, Cavenham manor in Stoke, Warham, and Wretton held of the crown, Buxton and Heveningham manors held *in capite*, North Pickenham and Houghton manors held *in capite*, Swanton Morley manor held *in capite*, Worthing manor held *in capite*, Stratton-hall manor held of the manor of Hoxne, and Welham and Rees's manors there, held of sir Robert Inglos in Norfolk, the manors of Bedingfeld, Denham and Charsfield, Erefwell, also of Chamberlain's in Erefwell, and Scot's manor in Martlesham in Suffolk, Pebmarsh's and Dagworth's in Essex, with Henny and Pooly manors in the said county; all which descended to his son and heir

Sir Henry Bedingfield, whose great-grandson sir Henry Bedingfield, bart, inherited Oxburgh as immediate heir to the Weylands and Tudenhams, in a lineal descent, for upwards of five hundred years.

The late sir Henry Bedingfield married the lady Elizabeth Boyle, eldest daughter of Charles earl of Burlington, and sister of Richard Boyle, the late earl of Burlington, whose only surviving daughter and heiress married the late duke of Devonshire, and was mother of the present duke. The title of Burlington is now extinct, the late earl dying without issue male.

By the lady Elizabeth Boyle, sir Henry Bedingfield had several children, and was succeeded in title and estate.

estate by the present sir Richard Bedingsfield, his eldest son.

Sir Richard Bedingfield, bart. the present lord of Oxburgh, married a daughter of the late lord viscount Montague, and sister of the present lord, Anthony Browne, viscount Montague. By lady Bedingfield (deceased some years since) sir Richard has an only son and heir. His sister married Charles Biddulph, esq. of Sussex.

**ODE'S, SPARROW'S, OR CHAUNTRY MANOR.** William Odo was lord in the feond of Richard II.

Richard Sparwe or Sparrow, gent. afterwards held it, and by his will, dated the 24th of April, 1482, and proved the 10th of February 1483, gives this manor, with all the services, quit-rents, lands, tenements, pastures, meadows, &c. lying in the towns and fields of Oxburgh, and Caldecote, (now by corruption called Cocket, formerly a little hamlet adjoining to Oxburgh, but now consisting of a single house) to the founding of a chauntry in the church of Oxburgh, and for the maintenance of a priest to officiate in the said church, to pray for his soul, the souls of his parents, children, and all his benefactors.

The chauntry (as appears by the said will) was founded in honour of the Holy Trinity, the gloriuous Virgin Mary, St. John the Evangelist, and all the Saints. William Elys, was named by the founder the first chauntry priest, whom he requires to be a native of the diocese of Norwich, a secular priest, and to have no ecclesiastical benefice: he appoints twelve trustees, and when it devolved to three, they were to make a new election, and to name and appoint

point the said priests, and on their neglect for one month, the prior of Westacre was to name, &c. and on his neglect for one month, the churchwardens of Oxburgh; and the rector of Oxburgh was supervisor of his will.

The capital messuage, lands, &c. were granted by Edw. VI. in his 2d year, to Osbert Mundeford and Thomas Gawdy, esqrs. and their heirs, to be held in free soccage of the manor of Drayton in Norfolk.

On the 16th of June, in the 6th of Elizabeth, it was held by Gabriel Bates, gent. who for the sum of 160l. sold it to John Curlington, from whom it passed by John Grimston, Arthur Hewer, Thomas Chaplin, Edmund Peirce, Remigius Booth, William Scot, gent. &c. to Thomas Craske, that is to say, the capital messuage, with about fifty acres of land, arable and pasture, the manor and most of the lands being alienated.

That it was originally well endowed, appears from what hath been already specified, and from a *terrier* made in the 11th of Henry VII. when there were seventeen acres of pasture inclosed, seven score and five acres, with three roods of arable land, then belonging to it.

About the year 1720, Thomas son of the aforesaid Thomas Craske, sold it to Sir Henry Bedingfield, bart. The house that belonged to it, in which the priest lived, stands in the town of Oxburgh, a little east of the church, being a great building, and had lately a large hall, with screens, butteries, &c. adjoining, (as in colleges) inclosed next the street, with a lofty long wall of freestone, with embattlements or copings of the same; the entrance to it was through

through a neat and lofty arch in the walls, now worked up.

South-west of the town a mile, is the Hithe, to which place the river Wissley is navigable; here are granaries for corn, and coal yards; and lighters and boats pass from hence to Lynn, Cambridge and other towns on that navigation.

About two miles east of the town, in the road to Cley, a little before you come to Langwade croſs, (part of which is still standing on the greenway, which is the boundary between Oxburgh and Cley) was a house of lepers. Thomas Salmon, chaplain of Oxburgh in 1380, gave by will to the chapel of St. Mary at Oxburgh, 3s. 4d. and the lazars at Langwade 6d. There was an antient family of this name, who took their name from the long-wade or paſſage here over the river. Ralph and Robert de Langwade gave by deed lands to West Dereham abbey.—The lete is in the lord of the manor,

The church of Oxburgh is dedicated to St. John the Evangelist; it is a large and regular edifice, conſisting of middle, north and ſouth ailes; in length, from the west door to the chancel, about eighty-eight feet, and, including all the ailes, in breadth about fifty-three feet. The chancel is about forty-six feet long and twenty-one broad; the whole is of flint-stone, &c. covered with lead, and seems to have been founded about the reign of Edward I. At the west end stands a four-square tower of curious workmanship of flint, with quoins and battlements of freestone; on this is raised a lofty octangular ſpire, all of free-stone throughout, the whole being one hundred and fifty feet in height.

In

In this tower hang five musical bells, the first thus inscribed, *Omnia sunt ad Gloriam Dei, 1610.* The third, *Te per Orbem Terrarum Sancta confitetur Ecclesia, Patrem immensae Majestatis 1582,* and on this is the figure of St. Edmund. The fourth, *Venerandum tuum verum, et unicum Filium, 1582.* The fifth, *O Christe, Rex Glorie Es Tu, 1586.* Here also is a clock, which strikes on the bell hanging on the outside of the spire, with a dial-plate on the west side of the tower.

At the west door, as you enter, lie two old grave-stones, one on the right hand, the other on the left, with plain crosses on them; also a third with a cross fleury, and serves for the uppermost step, as you descend into the church, in memory most probably of some of the family of the Weylands, lords of the town and founders of the church. The lady Cecilia de Weyland, by her will, dated in 1384, bequeathed her body to be buried in the church-yard, before the west door; on each side of which is a nich of stone-work for images,

On the pavement of this church lie several grave-stones, deprived of their brasses; on one before the screen of the chancel, with a brass plate,

*Orate pro anima Domini Johannis Blome Capellan' qui obiit 25 die Julii, Ano Dni Mcccciiii, Cujus, &c,*

He was chaplain of Sparrow's chauncry in this church, and by his will, dated the 16th of April, 1501, bequeathed his body to be buried here, near the altar of the Crucifix, and gave all his lands and tenements in the town and fields of Oxburgh, to the keeping of his anniversary on Monday in Easter week

week for ever, placing one herse over his sepulchre, and finding two lights on it, of one pound of wax, to burn in time of Exequiæ and Mass performing on the day of the commemoration of his death; four torches to burn before his sepulchre, and to find one light to burn before the image of the Holy Trinity in the chancel every festival day in time of divine service, and one penny offering at the maf on the commemoration of his death; to the increase and maintenance of the green torches in the said church, 3s. 4d. and to pay the Rome-shot and Candle-silver of the whole village for ever. He appointed that when all his feoffees but four were dead, a new feofment should be made to sixteen or twelve of the best and honestest men of the parish.

The pulpit and desk are of neat plain oak; round the sounding boad, in letters of gold, "This pulpit and desk, together with a clock, was made by the gift of Robert Shales, gent. who died May 26, 1702, aged 47." Before the desk stands a very large brass eagle, supported by three lions, the whole being about six feet in heighth, and thus inscribed:

*Orate pro anima Thome Kyppyn quondam Recloris de Narburgh.*

The roof of the nave is supported by octangular stone pillars, forming twelve large arches, six on a side, with windows over them. In the window over the fourth arch on the south side is, Arg. on a cross, gul. five escallops or, Weyland; and in that of the fourth arch on the north:

*Orate pro animab' Dni Roberti Weyland et Cecilie Uxoris ejus.*

The

The east end of this aisle is of different work from the other parts of it; the roof of it is advanced, has a large window, and was, as we take it, the chapel of St. Mary, the effigies of the Virgin with the child Jesus may be still observed, also an holy water stoup makes part of the pavement: to this aisle is annexed a large porch.

The north aisle has a porch, the roof of which has been painted; over the door as you enter the church is a pedestal, and on the pavement are the remains of an old marble grave-stone, probably for the founder: the whole is of different workmanship, and more modern than the rest of the church.

In the chancel hangs a table, thus inscribed:—  
*"OXBURGH, Benefactors to this Church and Poor."* Then follows a list of the benefactors and benefactions to the church and town.

The chancel is separated from the church by a lofty screen, which, with the pannels, has been curiously painted; over this are the king's arms. As you enter, on the pavement lies a grey marble stone, with the portraiture of a priest robed, &c. with a label,

*Jesu Fili Dei, miserere Mei.*

Against the north wall of the chancel is a neat mural monument of marble, ornamented with two marble pilasters of the Ionic order, two piles of books, and on them two lamps with flames of gold; on the summit is an urn, festoons, and two lamps, &c.

*Hic situs est Henricus Meriton, A. M. qui Hadstochæ in agro Essexiens, Cantabrigiæ inter Magdalenses educatus, et per sexaginta et amplius annos, parochiæ  
 hujus*

*hujus rector vigilantissimus, quam natus est provinciam antiqua fide, eximia pietate, atque egregia retum sacrarum scientia, implevit, ornavit. Inde se fuisse veritatis indagator, assertorque strenuus, et jam arduis et difficilibus temporibus perniciuos, Romanenium, aliorumque errores, et fraudes, perspicaci et firmo animo detexit et labefactavit, obiit 30 Jan. 1707.*

At the bottom is this shield—Az. on a chevron or, three roses gules, and a canton ermine, Meriton. And under the urn above,

*Impensis Johannis Meriton filij Henrici.*

Between the church and chancel is an arch of stone for the saints bell: south of the chancel, and at the east end of the south aisle, is a very beautiful chapel of free stone, with buttresses of the same, and separated from the chancel and the south aisle with stone work about four feet high; on this is raised a large arch or covering of brick-earth, curiously moulded, burnt and whitened, on which are several pilasters, with capitals of the Corinthian order, cherubs, lamps, vases, &c. neatly executed; the space between the body and the arch or covering, is guarded by iron rails; on the roof, which is of oak, and covered with lead, are the arms of Bedingfield and Tudenham, Weyland, Scot and Vert, a chev. ermine between three rams tripping arg. Wetherby, and also Shelton.

“ Margaret Bedingfield, relict of sir Edmund,  
“ Knight of the Bath, was the foundress. By her  
“ will, dated the 12th of January, 1513, she be-  
“ queaths her body to be buried in the church of  
“ Oxburgh, before the image of the Trinity, where  
“ I will a chapel to be erected.”

Against

Against the south side is a large altar monument of marble, &c. two pillars of the Corinthian order, with their capitals gilt with gold, support a canopy or covering, whereon stand three shields. In the midst, Bedingfield, erm. a spread eagle gul. beaked and peded or.

On the wall-piece is this inscription in letters of gold :

*Casta Bedingfeld Comes, hic Katharina Marito est.  
Lustris Viva decem, quæ fuit ante Comes.  
Prole Virum Conjux, Vir adauxit honoribus illam.  
Factus post multos Nominis hujus Eques.  
Inde Satellitium sumpfit, Turring; regendam,  
Pars a Consilijs Una, Maria tuis.  
Privatus Senium, Christoque, Sibique dicavit.  
Vir pius, et veræ Religionis amans.  
Hospitio largis, miserisque suisque benignus,  
Ad Mortem et Morbi tædia, fortis erat.*

Round this inscription are several knots, and horses fetterlocks, or. (badges made use of by this family.) The fetterlock was the badge of the House of York, and might, by some grant, have been given to the Bedingfields for their attachment to it; and there was a particular room (as appears from an old inventory of Oxburgh-hall) called by the name of the Fetterlock. This badge was devised by Edmund duke of York, fifth son to Edward III. *locked*, as one should say, for he was far from the inheritance: and was given by Edward IV. *unlocked* and somewhat open, or, to his second son, Richard duke of York: so fond was that king of this badge or device, that the apartments of the prebendaries of Windsor were built by him in this form, and the said king mad<sup>e</sup> use of it himself. Hall has a draught

draught of a fetterlock with a faulcon in it, before his history of the life of that king ; and Edmund of Langley, duke of York, when he rebuilt Fotheringhay castle in Northamptonshire, made the highest keep in the same form. Camden says, that the aforesaid Edmund bore also a faulcon in a fetter-lock, implying he was *locked up* from all hope and possibility of the kingdom, when his brethren began to aspire thereunto ; whereupon he asked his sons on a time, when he saw them beholding this device set up in a window, *what was Latin for a fetter-lock ?* whereat when the young gentlemen studied, the father said, *Well, if you cannot tell me, I will tell you : " Hic, Hæc, Hoc, taceatis."* As advising them to be silent and quiet, and therewithal said, *Yet God knoweth what may come to pass hereafter.* This his great grandchild, Edward IV. reported, when he commanded that his youngest son, Richard duke of York, should use this device with the fetterlock open.

There is no date to this monument erected to the memory of sir Henry Bedingfield, knt. captain of the guards, governor of the tower of London, and privy councillor to queen Mary, who was buried here, as appears from the register, on the 24th of August 1583, and his lady on the 7th of December 1581.

Against the north wall of the said chapel is a large and lofty monument of black and white marble, resting on the pavement. On the summit is an urn of black marble, ornamented with festoons, &c. below that, two shields supported by two angels, on one of which is this inscription.

*Under this monument lyeth the body of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, the 17th knight of this family, eminent for*

for his loyalty to his Prince, and service of his country. In the time of the rebellion he was kept three years prisoner in the Tower, and great part of his estate was sold by the rebels, the rest sequestered during his life. He had two wives, the first, Mary daughter to William Lord Howard, of the North, by whom he had one son, who dyed without issue: His second wife was Elizabeth daughter of Peter Houghton, Esq; by whom he had 5 sons and 6 daughters: He died November 22, An<sup>o</sup>. Dni<sup>r</sup> 1657, Aet. 70, and 6 months.

On the other shield—*Here lyeth Elizabeth wife of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, Knt. and daughter of Peter Houghton of Houghton-Tower in Lancashire, Esq;* She dyed on the 11th of April An<sup>o</sup> Dni<sup>r</sup> 1662.

*Beati Mortui qui in Domino moriuntur. Eccles'*

Below these are two shields with arms, Bedingfield, and fable three bars arg. Houghton.

On the lower part of this mural monument are two other shields, one with the arms of Bedingfield, the other of Paston, and this inscription :

*Under this monument lyeth the body of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, the first baronet of the family, made by the especial favour of King Charles the II. He was tall and comely, endow'd with rare parts both natural and acquired. He serv'd King Charles I. in all the rebellion, and till the Restoration was a great sufferer in his person and estate. From which time to his death, he liv'd a most exemplary life, beloved and admir'd for his virtue and wisdom: His death was extremely lamented, which happen'd on the 24th of February An<sup>o</sup>, Dni<sup>r</sup> 1684, aet. 70 and 5 months. He*

*married the daughter and heiress of Edward Paston, Esq; by whom he had 7 sons and 6 daughters.*

*Here lyeth the body of dame Margaret, the only child of Edward Paston, of Horton in the county of Gloucester, Esq; & the only wife of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, here also interr'd, a person of extraordinary parts, piety and prudence, who after 50 years enjoyment of perfect felicity in the married state, pass'd 18 years widowhood, in an absolute retreat, in the constant exercise of her devotions, and dayly distribution of charity, and departed this life, January 14, 1702, aged 84 years, having first erected this monument to the memory of her dear and deserving husband.*

Against the east wall of the chapel is a neat mural monument of black and white marble, veined with red; on the summit is an urn with a flame of gold; at the bottom is a death's head between two cherubims, and the whole is ornamented with festoons, and the arms of Bedingfield; also Bedingfield impaling sable six swallows arg. Arundel. Bedingfield impaling Howard.—On the body is this inscription in letters of gold :

*Beneath this monument is interr'd the most virtuous and pious lady, Elizabeth youngest daughter of sir John Arundel, of Lanherne in Cornwall, and second wife to Sir Henry Bedingfeld, of Oxburgh, Knt. and Bart. who in the 35th year of her age, departed this life, on the 13th of April 1690, leaving an only son and three daughters.*

*Requiescat in Pace.*

*Hic jacet Domina Anna Bedingfeld, filia et Hæres  
Caroli Howard, Comitis de Berkshire ex Dorothea  
Conjuge*

*Conjuge Uxor Henrici Bedingfeld, Equitis Aurati,  
quæ Pietate in Deum, Charitate in Egenos, Equitate  
in omnes insignis, obiit die 19 Septembris 1682, ætat.  
fusæ 32.*

*Requiescat in Pace.*

*Here lyeth the body of Sir Henry Bedingfeld, son  
of Sir Henry Bedingfeld by Dame Margaret Paston :  
He was a person of great worth and honour, and par-  
ticularly eminent for his great hospitality ; he had two  
wives, the first Ann Howard, only child then living  
of Charles Lord Viscount Andover, and afterwards  
Earl of Berkshire, by whom he had no issue ; the last  
wife was Elizabeth youngest daughter of Sir John  
Arundel, by whom he has left one son and two daugh-  
ters, and departed this life September 14, 1704,  
aged 68.*

*Requiescat in Pace.*

About the beginning of the reign of Edward I. we find from Norwich Doomsday, that sir William de Odynfells was lord of the town and patron of the church ; the rector then had a mansion-house, with fifteen acres of glebe : the rectory was valued at eighteen marks.

Edmund Gournay and Hugh de Holland, as trus-tees, gave the advowson of this church to the ab-  
bay of West Dereham, who presented in 1416.

In 1512, the abbot presented Robert Bedingfield, second son of sir Edmund Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, who was pensioner of Corpus Christi college in Cam-bridge, and a benefactor thereto, by making the west windows of the building leading from the college to Bennet church (which was then used as a chapel for the college) at his own charge. In 1537 he was

rector of Gaysterton Parva, in Lincoln diocese, and was instituted rector of Erefwell in 1533, being buried in Oxburgh church in 1539, July 19.

On the dissolution of the abbey of West Dereham, the advowson of this church was given to Edward lord Clinton, in the 6th of Edward VI. to be held of the king as of the manor of East Greenwich in free soccage; and in the said year the aforesaid lord sold it to William Breton, of London, gent. who conveyed it soon after to Francis Boldero, gent. of Redgrave in Suffolk, from whom it came to Edmund Dethick, esq. of Wormegay, and then to Henry Reynolds, esq. of Belfste in Suffolk, who sold it to John Hethe, of Lynn Regis, and of Keevier in the county of Durham, who conveyed it to John Chetham, of Livermere in Suffolk, gent. on the 22d of May, in the 19th of Elizabeth, and Chetham conveyed it to Edmund Bedingfield on the 4th of August, in the 26th of Elizabeth, and sir Henry Bedingfield in the 18th of Charles I. to Henry Meriton, clerk, of Stilton in Huntingdonshire, which Henry left it to John Meriton his son, rector here, and he gave it to his widow for life, after whose death it went to John Meriton, clerk, his son and heir, who sold it to Caius college in Cambridge, and that society now hath the patronage.

In 1717, the late Rev. and learned antiquarian, Charles Parkin, was presented to this rectory by Mrs. Mary Meriton. He published in 1744 an answer to Dr. Stukeley's *Origines Roystonianæ*, and also a reply on that subject. He continued the ESSAY towards a HISTORY of NORFOLK, left unfinished by the late Rev. Mr. Blomefield, who had at a very great expence collected materials for that extensive work, and published the chief part of it before his death.

The

The gentlemen of Norfolk are much indebted to the late Mr. Blomefield for his unwearied assiduity in prosecuting so laborious an undertaking.

The present rector is the Rev. Joshua White, late fellow of Gonville and Caius college in Cambridge, who was presented to this rectory, with Fouldon, consolidated June 1761, by the master and fellows of that college in 1765.

The lady Margaret Bedingfield by will, dated the 12th of January, 1513, gave to the gilds of the Holy Trinity, St. Thomas, and Corpus Christi here, 6s. 8d. to each, and legacies to the high altar of several neighbouring churches.

They were called gilds from the Saxon word *Gild*, or *Geld*, which signifies *Money*, because a gild is a society, or fraternity, associating themselves either upon the account of charity, religion, or trade, and they contributed money, goods, and often lands for the support of their common charges, and are said to be common, even in the Saxon times. These gilds had their frequent meetings, and their grand Annual, on the day of the Saint to whom they were dedicated, and maintained a priest or priests to sing mass, and celebrate divine service, for the souls of the king and queen, and for the souls of the living and dead of their fraternity; from hence the several companies in cities and corporations had their beginning, and the chief hall of the city of London and that of Norwich, &c. is called at this day Gild-Hall.

License was generally granted from the crown to found them: they consisted of a custos, alderman,

or master, and as many persons, men and women, in the township or neighbourhood, as thought fit to be of the fraternity; and the warden, or alderman, with the major part of the society, were empowered to choose annually a warden and other officers, for the government of the same. They, as a body corporate, had power to purchase lands, &c. for the maintenance of their chaplains, who were to pray at the altar belonging to them in the parish church. Divers of the nobility, bishops, and other eminent persons thought it no dishonour to be admitted into them; which admission was sued for with great reverence, and an oath was taken to be good and true to the masters of the gilds, and to all the brethren.

We have an account of a festival of the gild of the Holy Cross at Abingdon in Berkshire. This fraternity held their feast yearly on the 3d of May, the *Invention of the Holy Cross*, and then they used to have twelve priests to sing a *dirige*, for which they had given them four-pence a-piece; they had also twelve minstrels, who had 2s. 3d. besides their diet and horse meat. At one of these feasts, in the 23d of Henry VI. they had six calves, valued at 2s. 2d. a-piece, sixteen lambs, 12d. a-piece, eighty capons, 3d. a-piece, eighty geese, 2d. ob. a-piece, eight hundred eggs, which cost 5d. the hundred, and many marrow-bones, cream and flour, besides what their servants and others brought in; and pageants, plays, and May-games, to captivate the senses of the zealous beholders and to allure the people to the greater liberality; for they did not make their feasts without profit, for those that sat at dinner paid one rate, and those that stood paid another. These plays were histories of the Old and New Testament, the persons therein mentioned being brought upon the stage, whom

whom the poet, according to his fancy, brings in talking to one another; a specimen of one of these plays, called *Corpus Christi*, may be seen in Stephen's *Additions to the Monasticon*.

These gilds also gave annual charity; stipends to poor persons; found beds and entertainments for poor people that were strangers, and had people to keep and tend the said beds, and did other works of charity. The houses where those entertainments were held, were generally near the church; and the house on the south side of the church-yard of Oxburgh belonged to one of the gilds there, and is called in old writings the Gild-hall; and the house on the east side of the said church-yard was another Gild-hall, and belonged to that of Corpus Christi, the ceilings being painted and beautified with the portraiture of our Saviour, the five wounds, &c. as may be observed at this day.

South-west of the present church about half a mile, and near to the rector's house, stands the ancient parochial or mother church, being a single building of flint, &c. with a finishing over, and having four large buttresses of free-stone, one at each corner: it is a very plain rude edifice, about thirty-four feet in length and twenty in breadth, very much resembling that draught of the church of Glastonbury, said to be built by Joseph of Arimathea, as exhibited by sir Henry Spelman, in his History of the Councils.

About the south-west part of this pile, near the foundation of the buttress, a gardener digging some years past, found a small Saxon brass coin; on one side the legend is AEDELRED REX, the reverse obscure, but seems to be LEOFSTAN, probably the mint master.

ter. This is that Edelred or Eldred, who was king of England in 946, about whose reign this church was most likely erected.

The greatest part of the old pile is still entire, with the arches of the east and west windows, and some of the principals of the old roof: the western part of it is now a dove-house, and has been so time immemorial; it was most likely disused some ages since, upon the building of the other church, as may be supposed from the burials of several rectors some ages past.

On the north side of the east window, is an arch in the wall, no doubt for the *Imago Principalis*, which was enjoined to be in all churches,

To this old church there belonged a very large church-yard or cemetery, containing three or four acres of ground, now part of the glebe. Incredible numbers of human bones and sculls have been dug up in the ground round this edifice; now the smallness of the old church bearing no proportion to its cemetery, shews that the parish in those early days was very large, and required a large cemetery to inter them in; but small churches were often found, and very mean ones too, at that time in large places: if there was but room for an altar, and for a number to hear mass, it was sufficient. Preaching in those days, and till near our own times, being often in the church-yards, as under the oak in St. Clement's church-yard, and in the Green-yard at Norwich, at Paul's Cross in London, &c.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 18l. 6s. 8d. and the church has a spire on its tower which is seen at a considerable distance,

Some

Some years since an act passed to impower sir Henry Bedingfield, bart. lord here, to drain, improve and enclose seven hundred acres of land, called Oxburgh common, which was accordingly done.

The village contains about thirty houses and one hundred and eighty inhabitants.

**PICKENHAM NORTH.** From Doomsday-book we learn, that part of this village called Pickenham was a berewic, a little lordship or hamlet, belonging to the king's manor of Sporle, and was valued with it. It lies south-east of Swaffham about three miles.

There are three different manors in this village, belonging to different proprietors :

HUGGLESFORD MANOR,  
VIRLEY'S MANOR, and  
EARL WARREN'S MANOR.

The former was sold by the late sir Henry Bedingfield, bart. to Henry Eyre, esq. of Bure's or Berry's Hall in Hale, now in possession of John Richard Dashwood, esq. of Cockley Cley.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and built of flint, stones, &c. the body is about forty-two feet in length, and with the south aisle annexed, is about thirty in breadth, both covered with lead. On the north side of the nave is a chapel, about fourteen feet, covered with lead. The chancel is in length about fourteen feet, and covered with tile.

The

The present rector is the Rev. Mr. Robert Say, son of the late vicar of Swaffham, and chaplain to the present earl of Orford, lord lieutenant of this county. Mr. Say had this living on his own presentation for this turn, in 1764, with Houghton on the Hill, consolidated February 27, 1747.

In this town was an hermitage, with a chapel dedicated to St. Paul, held by John Caius, M. D. in the 4th and 5th of Philip and Mary. This was the great benefactor to Gonville College in Cambridge: by the large additions made to it by Dr. Caius it is now more frequently called Caius College. On his monument is inscribed by his own order,

*FUI CAIUS.*

This rectory is 5l. 4s. 2d. in the king's books.

SOUTH PICKENHAM, is about a mile to the southward of North Pickenham, in the road from Swaffham to Watton, a distance of nine miles.

This town was formerly divided into two moieties, the one belonging to the earl of Clare, the other to the Neviles, lord Latimers.

LATIMER'S MOIETY. About the latter end of the reign of queen Elizabeth this moiety was in sir Henry Hobart: afterwards it came to the Methwolds, and from them it came, in 1670, to sir Thomas Player, knt. who conveyed it to Anthony Fisher, esq. who partly built the manor-house, now called the Hall, and his son Anthony sold it to sir Edward Atkins, knt. lord chief baron of the Exchequer, who finished the house and resided here in the reign of king William, and the baron's son Richard

Richard conveyed it to Thomas Chute, esq. clerk of the crown in Chancery, whose son Leonard dying without issue, it came to his brother, Devereux Chute, and on his death to Thomas Lobb Chute, son of Thomas Lobb, esq. by Elizabeth eldest sister of Leonard, who is the present lord and patron. Mr. Chute has raised many beautiful and extensive plantations near the manor-house, and upon the heath leading to Swaffham.

CLARE'S MOIETY. In the 31st of Henry VIII. this moiety was joined to Latimer's, as it now remains.

The church of South Pickenham is dedicated to all the Saints, and is a single building, having only one aisle or nave, of flint, &c. in length about forty-two feet, and in breadth about sixteen, with a roof of oak, covered with lead.

On the north side of the nave is a porch covered with tiles; on the same side has been a chapel, or burial place, of brick, now in ruins, without a roof, and overgrown with Ivy; Henry Hobart, youngest son of sir Henry Hobart, knt. lord chief justice of the Common Pleas, built it, and was there buried the 17th of Nov. 1638.

At the west end of the nave is a very antique round tower, and on that an octangular top, raised some centuries after, and on the decay of the other, which was very probably built by Edric the Danish lord. On the summit is a little shaft. In this tower hang three bells. The chancel is divided from the nave by a wooden screen, and is twenty-four feet in length, and about eighteen in breadth, and

and covered with reed. In the east window are Mr. Thelwold's arms, with a crescent arg.

Against the south wall, within the rails of the communion table, to which there are an ascent of two steps, is a compartment of white marble: on the summit is Fisher, gul. a chevron between three lions passant or, impaling Willis, party per fess gul. and arg. three lions rampant counterchanged, in a bordure ermine, and this epitaph.

*Here lieth interred the body of Anthony Fisher, Esq; eldest son of William Fisher, of Wisbeach in the Isle of Ely and County of Cambridge, Esq; who married Ann the eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Willys, of Fen Ditton in the County of Cambridge, Bart. & had issue of her, 4 sons, viz. Anthony, John, Thomas and William, and one daughter, Ann. He departed this life the 3d day of June 1679. In Spe Beatæ Resurrectionis. Here also lieth the body of William Fisher, Gent. (only brother of Anthony Fisher, Esq;) who died the 21st of May, 1685.*

Opposite to this, on the north wall, is another compartment of white marble, ornamented with two cherubs; on the summit an urn with a flame of gold; at the foot of the monument, Chute, gul. three swords bar-ways arg. hilted or, impaling Chute; crest a dexter arm coup'd holding a sword, and on the table is this:

*Juxta hoc Marmor requiescit Thomas Lennard Chute,  
Armiger  
Luciduolum sœvientis Podagræ Exemplar,  
Non Annis sed doloribus confectus.  
In senuit Juvenis, et ad Cælos  
Migravit adhuc Viridis.*

*Vir.*

*Vir, Fide, Virtute, Pietate,  
Constans, Audax, Sincerus.*

*Dominus non Importunus, amicus Suavissimus,  
Omnibus facilis. Aequusq;  
Nulli non charus.*

*Vixit Filius, Coniux, Frater, pius, Fidelis, amantissimus.*

*Ingeni dotes, si quis alias unquam*

*Præclaras habuit, nec fastuosas.*

*Decessit omnibus vere flebilis,*

*Inimicus enim Nemini.*

*Salutis. } MDCCXXII.*

*Denatus XI<sup>o</sup> Die Maij Anno*

*Ætatis } XXXIII.*

*Uxorem duxit CATHERINAM filiam*

*Edvardi Chute Armigeri que Unicum*

*Suscepit filium, qui X Menses Natus obijt.*

This church fell down in a violent storm, Nov. 10, 1604, when Dr. Jagon, bishop of Norwich, granted a faculty to cover it with lead.

On the pavement in the chancel lies a grey marble stone, with this shield:—Methwold, impaling Allington, quartering in the second quarter Argenton, in the third, azure, seven martlets or, and a canton ermine, Fitz-Tecle, and in the fourth quarter, parted per fess arg. and sab. a pale counterchanged, on each piece of the first, a griffin's head erased, of the 2d, Gardiner, Mary daughter and heir of sir Richard Gardiner, lord Mayor of London in the time of Edward IV. and of Exning in Cambridgeshire, was married the 12th of Henry VIII. to sir Giles Allington. And on a plate of brads is this:

*Here lieth William Methwold, Gent. the second son of William Methwold, of Langford, Esq; His wife*

wife was Susanna the daughter of George Allington, of Rushford, Esq; by whom he had issue three sons and four daughters. He died the xxix day of Aug. An<sup>o</sup> ætatis 56, An<sup>o</sup> Elizabeth Reginæ 28, et An<sup>o</sup> Dni. 1586.

The windows of the chancel have been curiously painted; on the north side are fragments of the Salutation.

The Rev. Mr. Thomas Pigge is the present rector, presented February 8, 1736, by Thomas Lobb Chute, esq. the present patron, to the consolidated rectory of South Pickenham St. Andrew with All Saints.

**SOUTH-ACRE.** This village, as well as Castle-acre and West-acre, in the book of Doomsday, are wrote singly Acra, but is now called South-acre. It contains that parish of Acre which lies on the southern side of the river Nar, which divides it from Castle-acre, and at the survey was the land of the earl Warren, held of him by Wimer.

It is very probable that Wimer was the ancestor of the Harfyke family, for sir Eudo de Arfick held this lordship of the earl Warren about the reign of Henry I. by the service of being castellan or keeper of his castle at Acre or Castle-acre.

In this family the lordship continued, and they were considerable benefactors to the abbey of Castle-acre.

In the 13th of Edward III. 1339, sir John Harfyke was high sheriff of Norfolk.

South-acre

South-acre, in the reign of Edward I. was in sir Roger Harsyke. In this family it continued till after the reign of Henry V. when it came by marriage to the Dorwards, thence to the Fotheringays, and by marriage to Nicholas Beaupre, esq. of Beaupre-hall in Outwell.

Edmund Beaupre, esq. his son and heir, left four daughters and co-heirs; Dorothy, the youngest, married to sir Robert Bell, lord chief baron of the Exchequer in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and had this manor, &c. assigned to her. By sir Robert she had sir Edmund Bell, who died in 1607.

In this family it continued till it was sold to sir Edward Barkham, knt. lord mayor of London in 1621; and in 1703, Dorothy, Frances and Jane, daughters and co-heirs of sir William Barkham, bart. conveyed it to Andrew Fountaine, esq. and so to his son sir Andrew Fountaine, knt. and Brigg Price Fountaine, esq. of Narford, is the present lord.

The scite of the old hall, the seat of the Harsykes, may be observed at this day, in a close north-east of the church; it stands near the river, and was moated round: it is now covered with wood and bushes, but the foundations are to be seen. Opposite to this manor-house stood a free chapel, now also demolished, founded by the Harsykes for their private use, and the chaplains were presented by them.

NARBURGH'S MANOR. Besides the aforesaid manor belonging to the earl Warren, part of the king's manor of Sporle extended itself into this town, and was held, or farmed of the king by Godric at the survey.

In

In the 17th of Edward IV. 1477, it was the inheritance of Cecily, wife of John Bocking, daughter and co-heir of William de Narburgh, and in the north aisle of the church is to be seen the shield of Narburgh at this day. The said Cecily dying without issue, the manor descended to Henry Spelman, of Narburgh, who married Elizabeth, her sister and co-heir; and in the 3d of Richard III. 1485, Henry Spelman was lord.

After this we find it united to the other lordship; and in the 25th of Elizabeth, 1583, was in the possession of the Bells, and it continues united at this time.

The priors of Castle-acre, Sporle and West-acre, were taxed for temporalities here.

The church of South-acre is dedicated to St. George: it has a nave, a north aisle, and a chancel, with a tower at the end of the nave, all built of flint stones and boulder, and covered with lead: the nave is about forty-four feet in length, and, with the north aisle, about thirty in breadth, and has a good roof of oak covered with lead.

At the upper end of the north aisle is a chapel, parted by a wooden screen painted, on the east side of which, in the chapel, adjoining to the north wall, is a tombstone, raised about a foot and a half from the ground, and thereon lies the effigy of a Knight Templar in his military vest, cross-legg'd, his hands conjoined at his breast, with a great broad belt and a sword, and a lion couchant at his feet, all of stone. There is no inscription or arms, but it is most likely in memory of sir Eudo Harfyke, the first of that name, for the monument bespeaks great antiquity.

The

The Templars were habited in white, and their uppermost garment was of red cloth, with a cross pattee on their left shoulder, and to shew that they are not ashamed of the doctrine of the Cross, they are pourtrayed and carved, with their legs forming a saltire cross, in armour, with the habit abovementioned over it; and their sword hanging from a broad belt buckled over their vest or inward habit, as in this monument: sometimes they are represented in armour, with their hands forming the same cross, having something like a torce or rope, close twisted about their limbs, with swords in their hands, and sometimes a plain long staff, with a cross pattee on the head.

This is called the chapel of the Assumption of our blessed Lady, and some years past here was in a window the effigy of sir John Harfyke, the founder, in compleat armour, on his knees, and hands conjoined, and at his right hand the arms of Harfyke, impaling gul. a fess between three leopards heads jessant fleurs de lys, or, the arms of Dryby; near him also was the effigy of his lady on her knees, and at her left hand her arms in a single shield. There were also the arms of Calthorpe impaling Walcote.

The eastern part of this chapel is taken in, and fenced with iron rails, by the Barkhams, who made it their burial-place, and have a vault here.

On the pavement on the left hand as you enter, lies a marble grave-stone near the wall, on which are the portraiture in brafs of a man and woman, with their right hands joined, the woman on the right hand, the man on the left; the man in compleat armour, and on his breast the arms of Harfyke, and near his head the crest of turkey feathers in an hoop

as above-mentioned, and at his feet a lion couchant. The woman in an antique dress of that age; on her vest are her own arms, on the right side, ermine a maunch gules, Calthorpe, and on her left side the arms of her husband, and at her feet is a dog couchant. On a rim of brass that goes round the stone is this inscription,

*Hic jacet Dns' Jno' Harfick Miles ejusdem Hominis tertius, qui obiit secundo die Septembris Ano' Dni Mcccxxxix. cuius anime propitietur Deus Amen, et Domina Katherina uxor.*

This sir John married Catherine, daughter and sole heir of sir Bartholomew Calthorpe, knt. of Gestingthorpe, whose father, sir Bartholomew, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of sir John de Gestingthorpe, of Essex, and by reason of her inheritance, assumed the arms of Gestingthorpe, ermine a maunch gules, and in a window adjoining is the same shield still remaining.

Near to this, in the north wall, is a marble stone fixed, and thus inscribed :

*Hic jacet Penelope, filia Domini Edwardi Barkham Baronetti, et Francisciæ Uxorū suæ, quæ quidem Penelope, Ætate Puellula, sed Prudentia, Pietate, Virtute Matrona, omnibus fatis, Parentibus nimis, et Deo maxime chara, terras reliquit, ad Nuptias Agni vocata Julii 11, 1678, Annoq; Ætatis suæ, Octavo.*

At the east end of this chapel, against the north wall, is a very rich and stately altar-monument, of marble and alabaster, ornamented with several death's heads, bones, &c. in basso reliefo; on this rests a large black marble slab, supported at each corner by

a column of black marble of the Dorick order ; on this slab lies a matt or bass of alabaster curiously carved, and on that lie the statues of sir Edward Barkham and his lady, on their backs, in their full length and proportions in alabaster, sir Edward in armour, and (what is somewhat incompatible) with his scarlet gown, and gold chain about his neck, as lord mayor of London, over his armour ; so that the statuary was of the same opinion with the Roman orator, *Cedant Arma Togæ*. He has also a book in his right hand, and rests his head on a cushion : his lady is in a dress agreeable to the age she lived in, her hands across, and rests her head on a cushion. At the head and foot of this monument are the effigies of two sons and three daughters, all kneeling on cushions.

To this monument is a wall-piece of the same materials, on the summit of which is this shield ; arg. three pallets gul. over all a chev'ron or. Barkham, and under it this motto,

*DILIGENTIA, FORTUNÆ MATER :*

On each side of this is a figure ; that on the right hand representing victory, with a laurel crown in her right hand, and on the pedestal that supports her, Barkham impaling quarterly in the first and fourth, arg. on a pale fable three crosses pattee, or. in a bordure engrailed of the second, Crouch, in the secoud and third arg. on a chev'ron fab. three helmets closed, or, Scott. The figure on the left hand is a skeleton representing death, and on the pedestal the arms of Crouch and Scott quarterly, and by these figures are two hour-glasses with wings. About this monument hang several banners and

streamers with the aforesaid arms, but here is no epitaph or inscription on it.

This sir Edward Barkham was lord mayor of London, in the 19th of James I. he was son of Edward Barkham, of this town, esq. and was created baronet of this town, June 28, 1623, being a native of this village : he married Jane daughter to John Crouch, esq. of Cornybery in Hertfordshire, by Joan daughter and heir of John Scott, of London.

The crest of Barkham on the iron work that incloses the tomb, is two arms embraced, or, hands proper, supporting a sheaf of arrows arg. in a rye band gul.

At the west end of the nave stands a little low square tower, of flint, with quoins and embattlements of free-stone, in which hang three bells, on the second is this inscription ; *In multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis*; it being dedicated to St. John. On the third, *As God will, so be it.*

The chancel is separated from the nave of the church by a wooden screen, ornamented with pillars of the Dorick order, erected at the charge of sir Edward Barkham aforesaid, as appears from his arms, &c. This chancel is in length about thirty, and about eighteen feet in breadth : on the middle of the area lies a marble stone, on the upper part of it, on a bras plate, is the portraiture of the Virgin Mary, with the child Jesus in her arms. Here was also on it the portraiture of a priest on his knees, in his robes, and this inscription on a brass plate :

*Orate pro anima Domini Thome Leman, quondam  
Recloris istius Ecclesie qui obiit x Die Mensis Junii.  
An° Dni Mccccxxxiii, cuius anime propitietur Deus.*

At the west end is a free-stone, fixed in the wall, thus inscribed :

" Aug. 1725, the Rev. Mr. William Broclebank, rector, new paved this chancel with stone, at his own charge, had the grave-stones cleaned and laid even, removed none that had any inscription, but gave three plain ones to be laid in the body of the church."

The communion table is inclosed with rails and balisters, and has an ascent of one step to it of free-stone ; against the east wall are the commandments in letters of gold, and the portraiture of Moses and Aaron, the gift of Mrs. Fountaine, mother of sir Andrew. In the east window is the shield of Harsyke painted on glas.

To this church there belongs a large silver cup, and two silver patines or salvers ; on the cup is this inscription ;

" The gift of the lady Jane Barkham, widow, to the church of Southacre in the county of Norfolk, 1642," and the arms of Barkham impaling Crouch, and the salvers have the same arms.

The present rector is the Rev. James Thom, a man of much learning and taste, and to whom the late sir Andrew Fountaine, knt. bequeathed the rectory on the decease of the Rev. Mr. King, and to which he was accordingly presented by his heir, Brigg Price Fountaine, esq. the present patron, or his guardians, the trustees of the late Brigg Price, esq. on the vacancy in 1756.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 10l. 18s. 1d. and in this parish was a house of lepers, with a church dedicated to St. Bartholomew. The place where this church and house of lepers stood, is now known by the name of Bartholomew Hill in Southacre, which lies on the road from Swaffham to Castleacre, where some remains of a little pedling fair is still kept on St. Bartholomew's Day, and here some people digging lately for stone, found several human bones, sculls, &c.

The house called Southacre-hall, a seat of the Barkhams and lord Richardson, was sold lately by William Jermy, esq. and Elizabeth, only sister and heir to William lord Richardson, his wife, to sir Andrew Fountaine, knt.

**F SPORLE, with GREAT and LITTLE PAGRAVE.** Sporle lies about three miles north-east of Swaffham. Here was formerly a priory, and the prior was patron of the vicarage.

The church of Sporle is a lofty and spacious building of flint, &c. dedicated to the Virgin Mary; it has its nave, and north and south aisles, covered with lead. At the west end of the nave stands the tower, of flint, with quoins and embattlements of free-stone, and therein are three bells; to this tower there has been annexed a large porch, embattled with free-stone, and over that a room, probably for some anchorite or recluse, but it is now in ruins and uncovered.

In the 28th of Edward I. 1300, we have an account in Norwich Doomsday, that Sporle, with Pagrave Parva, was appropriated to the prior of Sporle, who had the great tithes, and the vicar the small; that

that it was valued with its portions, besides the vicarage, at seven marks, the portion of the monks of Florence at ten marks, that of the monks of Roan at 20s. Peter-pence 18d.

Of Pagrave the prior of Sporle was patron ; the vicar had twelve parishioners, and had the great and small tithes, and a grange with five acres.

In 1349 the king presented, on account of the war with France, this being a priory alienated, and from this time the king constantly presented, till it was granted to Eton college.

Sporle is a vicarage, and the rectory is Little Pagrave : the great tithes are in Mr. Bartholomew Nelson, a merchant at Lynn.

Sir Matthew Holworthy, lord of the manor of Sporle, &c. gave to the town 600l. to purchase an estate, the product of which was to be assigned and given to the vicar, for the preaching a sermon here in the afternoon all the year, excepting the winter quarter ; with which an estate was purchased, now rented at above 60l. per ann. Mrs. Holworthy is the present lady of the manor.

**SPORLE PRIORY.** Near to the church of Sporle stood the priory, dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, but of the foundation there is no certain account ; though Henry II. who was earl of Anjou, was probably the founder. It was a cell to the monastery of St. Florence at Saumers, in the diocese of Anjou in France, of the order of St. Bennet.

There is recorded the following very curious bequest of James Cooke, formerly of this parish.—

" James Cooke, of Sporle, purposing to visit the  
 " Holy Pilgrimage of Rome, made his will in 1506:  
 " Item, I will that myn executors, as soone as it may  
 " come to ther knouleg, that I am dede, that they  
 " make a *drynyng for my soul* to the value of 6s. 8d.  
 " in the church of Sporle.

This priory was dissolved in the parliament held at Leicester, in the 2d of Henry V. 1424, at which parliament all the alien priories throughout England were suppressed, and given to the king and his heirs for ever; but as few of these lands were alienated at this time to the laity, till the general suppression of monasteries in the reign of Henry VIII. but were for the most part continued to sacred uses, so this priory, with all its dependencies, were given by Henry VI. to his college of Eton upon the founding of it, in the 19th year of his reign, and has continued in that college to this day.

The provost and fellows of Eton college are patrons of this church, and in 1773 presented the Rev. John Francis to the rectory of Sporle, consolidated with Pagrave Parva.

This town was royal demesne, and the Confessor gave it to Ralph earl of Norfolk (who forfeited it by his rebellion against William the Conqueror) at the great survey; it was managed and held for that king by Godric.

**SPORLE MANOR.** At the survey Godric held it for the king, and it remained royal demesne till king Henry I.

In the reign of Henry VIII. sir William Paston was lord of this and East-hall, alias Wotton's.

In

In 1611 sir William Paston died seized of it, held as it is then found of the countess of Arundel, as of her castle of Rising in Norfolk, in socage, and 6d. rent; and in the Paston family it continued in the reign of Charles I. but in 1660 John Thetford was lord, and after him sir Matthew Holworthy and his son, and Mrs. Holworthy possesses it at present.

**GREAT PAGRAVE.** The beruite, or hamlet, that belonged to this manor, which was always called Pagrave, was half a mile long and five furlongs broad, and paid its gelt or tax with Sporle, to which it always belonged, as it now doth, it being always part of that parish: it never had any church or place of public worship belonging to it, but its mother church of Sporle; but soon after the conquest, part of it was separated, and became the village called Little Pagrave.

The manor of East-hall in Great Pagrave is joined to Sporle manor.

**WOODHALL** in Pagrave Magna and Parva; consisted partly of lands belonging to the earl Warren's fee in Pagrave Parva.

In 1444, William Waynfleet, provost of Eton college, granted to John Paston, Edmund Paston, &c. all the goods and chattels, rents and profits of the lands, tenements, &c. which belonged to him and that college here, on account of an outlawry against John Halman and Henry Halman, of Sporle, and in 1451, Henry Halman granted the same to John Paston, esq. who died seized of this lordship in the 6th of Edward IV. After this it passed from the Pastons, as is observed in the manor of Sporle.

The

The leet of Pagrave Magna is in the lord of the hundred; leet-fee is 14d. per annum.

LITTLE PAGRAVE, hath been for many ages in the family who took their name from this lordship and seat of theirs, to which one of the family built a chapel, and fixed the tithes of his manor to it, so that it became parochial, and was a long time independent of Sporle, till the prior there obtained its advowson, and got it consolidated to Sporle.

The leet of Pagrave Parva is in the lord of the hundred; leet-fee is 4d. per annum.

STRANGE'S, or PAGRAVE PARVA MANOR. William earl Warren held land here in the Conqueror's time.

This lordship has been in the family of the Pagraves (who took their name from it) for many centuries. In the reign of Henry II. John, son of Thomas de Pagrave, gave to the monks of Castle-acre a rent of 4d. per ann.

In 1571 John Pagrave was lord, and sir Augustine Pagrave, bart. died seised of it.

About the year 1731, the whole manor was purchased in, and there were no out-rents but 36s. 8d. payable yearly to the sheriff of Norfolk. At sir Richard's death, it was ordered by decree in chancery to be sold by his heirs, with the manor of Norwood Barningham.

The heirs of sir Richard were the four daughters of Samuel Smith, late of Colkirk, esq. deceased, his mother being Uritha Palgrave, daughter of sir John

John Palgrave, grandfather of sir Richard, and father of sir Austin, viz.

1. Catherine, married to Thomas Bendish, esq. of Yarmouth, who is dead.

2. Uritha, married to —— Offley, of Derbyshire, esq. she being dead, John Offley, esq. is her son and heir.

3. Theodosia, who married Samuel Sparrowe, of Lavenham in Suffolk, gent.

4. Lucy, married first to —— Pett, of Dedenham in Suffolk, gent. and after to Jonas Rolfe, of Lynn Regis, gent.

The Rev. John Francis was presented to the rectory of Pagrave Parva, consolidated with Sporle, by Eton college, in 1773.

**SWAFFHAM.** This town, says Blomefield, may take its name from *Swedan*, a *swath*, being a long ridge of meadow ground, as a *Selion* is a ridge of arable ground, falling on each side, and this answers its scite, so that *Swatham* is a town on a ridge of hills.

Harold, son of Godwin earl of Kent, was lord of this town in the beginning of the reign of Edward the Confessor, from whom it came to the Conqueror, who gave it to Ralph Guader, or Waher, earl of Norfolk, who was lord here, as we learn from Doomsday.

Swaffham, when the lordship of Alan, earl of Richmond, was royal demesne, and after belonged to

to the earldom of Norfolk: it was a mile long and as much broad, and had at the survey a mill and the moiety of another, and one fishpond or fishery. It was accounted for as two manors, and valued at the survey at 16l. and there were 20s. per ann. more belonging to it.

This Ralph, earl of Norfolk, entering into a conspiracy with other lords against the Conqueror, lost all his possessions, and fled into France, and the Conqueror gave this lordship, &c. to his son-in-law Alan Rufus, alias Fergaunt, earl of Richmond in Yorkshire, who married his daughter Constance.

Earl Alan died in 1093, and was buried near the south door of the abbey of St. Edmund in Suffolk, before the altar of St. Nicholas.

The lordship of this town being thus vested in the earls of Richmond, it was looked upon as a member of, and went along with that honour successively.

About the 17th of king John, this town had a market granted to it, which is continued to this time; and in the 37th of Henry III. 1253, we find that Peter de Savoy, earl of Richmond, uncle to queen Eleanor, and lord of the town, had a confirmation of this grant of a market weekly on Saturday, and also of two fairs here yearly.

In the 3d year of Edward I. 1275, John de Dreux duke of Britain and Richmond, was lord, and held the manor *in capite*; and the church of Swaffham, which was in the gift or presentation of the earl of Richmond, was then valued at 80l. per ann.

In

In 1308, John de Britannia, earl of Richmond, was lord, and had a confirmation of two fairs here, and the market.

In 1425, Ralph Neville, earl of Westmoreland, died seised of this manor and advowson, and the honour of Richmond, which he had given him by Henry IV. on his accession to the crown, and held it for life; the reversion thereof to the king's son, John duke of Bedford, with the county of Richmond, the castle, honour, and feigniory, who in 1435 died seised of the manor and advowson of the church of Swaffham, also of the liberty of keeping a court here, called Shire-Court, from month to month, belonging to the honour of Richmond.

In 1456, Edmund of Hadham, earl of Richmond, the king's half brother, died seised of two parts of this lordship and advowson, held *in capite*.

In 1473, Edward IV. granted this lordship to George, duke of Clarence, his brother Henry, earl of Richmond, then being in banishment; but on the accession of Henry VII. to the crown, it became parcel of the crown lands, and was held by Henry VIII. queen Mary and queen Elizabeth, who in the 26th year of her reign recites, that she by her letters patent under the great seal, dated the 4th of May, 1570, in the 12th year of her reign, did demise to Philip Strelly, gent. then one of the captains of the village of Berwick, amongst other things, all and singular the lands and demesnes of the lordship or manor of Swaffham, and the warren of coneyes, called Spinney Park, &c. and to sir Henry Bedingfield, the lordship and manor of Swaffham, except courts baron and leets of the said manor: the queen therefore, on the surrender of that lease, demiseth to

Robert

Robert Chabenor and Ann his wife, and Payne their son, all the premisses aforesaid, which are parcel of the honour of Richmond, and of Riehmond fee, by the name of the manor of Swaffham, (except as before excepted) to hold to them and their heirs successively, paying for the warren and land called Spinney Park, 6l. 10s. per ann. and for the demesne lands and premisses, 7l. 10s. and the best beast for an herriot.

In 1620, we have much knowledge of the state of the town, from the verdict of the Jury, given at the court of the manor then held, viz. "That the freeholders hold of the manor by soccage, fealty, and free-rent, and pay for free-rent 4d. per acre, and for every acre of copyhold 3d. per acre; for every copyhold messuage 9d. That the copyholders may make leafes of their copyhold estates for twenty-one years, without licence of the lord, and on admittance 2d. per acre. To their knowledge, there never was any manor-house, but many acres of demesne lands, and Edward Heye and Christopher Watson were farmers thereof; there is another manor called Haspals and Whitsfands, which was granted by king Edward VI. to certain persons and their heirs, under which grant, Robert Halman, gent. &c. who have the said manor, keep court, &c. no mill now belongs to the manor, but two newly built, and they know not of any fishing or fowling; the lord hath weyfs, strays and felons goods, now no fair but a market where in six score and thirteen stalls, and fourteen shops, and the toll and profits, taken by the bayliff of the manor; the lord bishop of Norwich hath the right of presentation to the vicarage, and Nicholas Bate, clerk, is incumbent; the vicarage-house is in much decay, the impropriation is worth 100l. " per

" per ann. John Stallon, gent. is the farmer of it.  
" The copyholders of inheritance used to top, lop,  
" cut, stub, and fell down their wood, and their  
" timber trees, standing on their copyhold lands,  
" and to pull their houses down at pleasure; the lord  
" hath many great commons, &c, and the tenants  
" are not stinted in their common; the lord and his  
" farmers have kept sheep on part of the demesnes  
" and commons, about 1400, till of late, that some  
" part of the demesnes, about eighty acres, have been  
" ploughed, and 1400 sheep kept, to the damage of  
" the tenants. There are two town-houses, parcel  
" of the manor of Aspal's and Whitsand's, one for  
" the relief of the poor, the other for the clerk of  
" the parish to live in. That the king's majesty was  
" lately owner of the manor, but now the prince."

Sir Edward Coke farmed this lordship of Charles I. in the beginning of his reign, but it was soon after in the possession of Sir Edward Barkham, lord mayor of London in 1621, who in 1633 procured a grant for three fairs to be annually held here, and they are held to this day, on May the 12th, (old May-Day) July the 21st, and November the 14th. May the 12th is a great fair for sheep, horses, and cattle, and for hiring of shepherds.

From the Barkhams this lordship came by marriage to the Yallops, and the late Edward Yallop, who took the name of Spelman, of High-house, West-acre, esq. enjoyed it for many years, after a long and expensive contest with a Mr. Nash, of London, who claimed it either as a debt at play, or as a mortgage, uncertain which, and from whom the late Mr. Spelman recovered it by a tedious course of law, and by uncommon perseverance and fortitude. He sold this lordship to the late Richard Hammond, esq. of Wootton,

ton, whose nephew, Anthony Hammond, esq. of High-house, West-acre, is the present lord, is a widower, and has one only son.

The custom of the manor is to the eldest son.

**ASPAL'S MANOR.** This manor in 1239 was held of the earl of Richmond by Olive de Aula, who held it of the king *in capite*.

After different possessors in different reigns, it came in the year 1475, in the reign of Edward IV. to Simon Blake.

This Simon Blake, by will dated December 10, 1487, gives his manors, called Haspald's and Whitefonde's, to be settled on feoffees, to find for ever an honest and secular chaplain, not instituted into any vicarage, rectory, or free chapel, or other spiritual benefice, but to officiate, and daily say matins, the hours, mass at seven every morning, and vespers, and all divine offices; and on all festivals, and whenever service is sung by note, to assist in the church, with other chaplains and clerks, in singing in the choir there, and to pray especially for the health of his soul, his wife Joan's, his parents, Thomas Blake, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, Robert Heigham, esq. Margaret, Richard, and John Aleyn, John Bocking, and Joan late wife of Thomas Bocking, esq. and all his benefactors, and faithful deceased, to be called Blake's chauntry priest, and his chauntry was the south transept chapel of the church of Swaffham, where he lies buried under a marble stone near the altar of our Lady of Pity, and the said altar to be called the Altar of the Chauntry of Simon Blake.

This

This manor continued thus settled till the dissolution of chauntrys, in the reign of Edward VI. and in the 3d year of that king, he granted it, with a foldcourse and about ninety acres of land, to John Wright and William Walter, for the use of the town.

In 1627, May 16, an inquisition was taken before sir William Yelverton, bart. sir Henry Bedingfield, knt. sir John Hare, knt. and Thomas Athow, serjeant at law, commissioners for charitable uses, when the jury found, that the late dissolved chauntry of Swaffham, founded by Simon Blake, and the lordship and manor of Haspal and Whitsand, with the foldcourse and sixty acres of land in Swaffham, with the Church-croft, alias the Shooting-croft, was by Edward VI. by patent, dated the 26th of July, in the 3d of his reign, for 126l. granted to John Wright and William Walter, and their heirs and assignees, to pay yearly to nine poor people\* in Swaffham 56s. and that the purchase was made with the common stock of the town, for the repairing of the church, maintenance of the poor, repairing the highways, common wells, &c. that Wright died, and Walter survived, after whose death his son William Walter assigned the trust by deed, dated the 27th of May, the 5th of Edward VI. to William Orrell, &c. who infeoffed by deed, dated the 27th of September, in the 35th of Elizabeth, Robert Halman, &c. as feoffees, to have the government of the lands, manors, &c. and it continues at this present time in the hands of feoffees, in the said town.

John Reader held this chauntry at the dissolution of it, and had a pension from Edward VI. of 5l.

I

per

\* The king's alms are now paid to poor widows of the town.

per ann, which he held in 1553 ; he being the last chauntry priest.

WHITSAND'S MANOR was possessed by Hugh de Whytsand, in the reign of Edward I. and afterwards this manor was annexed to that of Aspal, and had the same lords.

The fine of these manors is only an additional year's quit-rent to every new tenant, in the nature of a relief.

SALTREY, SAWTREY MANOR, alias PRIORS THORNS, or as it is now called FRIARS THORNS. This manor took its name from the abbey of Sawtrey in Huntingdonshire, the abbot of which held lands and a manor here and in Narford at the dissolution.

In 1538, Henry VIII. gave this manor to sir Richard Cromwell, who aliened it, by licence of the same king, in the 30th year of his reign, with all the appurtenances in Swaffham, Narford and Guth-lake Stow, to sir John Crofts, of West Stow in Suffolk ; from him it came to Ralph Chamberlain, with the manor of Prior's or Friar's Thorns, with the appurtenances and liberty of a fold in Swaffham.

In the 15th of Elizabeth, licence was granted to Ralph Chamberlain to alienate it to Thomas and John Ives, and their heirs ; and soon after it was conveyed to Richard Beckham, esq. by the name of the manor late of John Crofts, by sir Ralph Chamberlain and his trustees, sir John Crofts and Margaret his wife, and Thomas Crofts, esq. their son, having released it to sir Ralph.

From

From the Beckhams it came to the Fountaines. The late sir Andrew Fountaine, vice chamberlain to the princess of Wales, purchased the whole manor and all the lands belonging to it.

Brigg Price Fountaine, esq. who succeeded to the estates of sir Andrew, being the only son of his niece, Miss Clent, (daughter of colonel Clent) by captain Price, is the present lord. In the life-time of sir Andrew, captain Price and lady resided at Friars-Thorns for many years.

The scite of it is about a mile and half west of Swaffham, on a very high hill, Surveying the country at a great distance: the situation is clean and pleasant, and formerly the monks of Sawtrey had two or three of their fraternity residing here, it being a sort of hotel or house of reception for pilgrims that travelled this way to Walsingham, or from thence to St. Thomas a Becket at Canterbury, the way leading cross the country from hence still retaining the name of Becket's Way.

In antient days the earls of Richmond had a prison in this town, and at this time here is a house of correction, or bridewell, which was erected in the 41st year of queen Elizabeth, for the hundred of South Greenhoe, Weyland, Grimshoe, Shropham, Guiltcross, Freebridge Marshland, and *citra* Lynn, and Clackclose.

Swaffham is situated upon a rising ground, in a fine open country. The situation is remarkably healthy, and many persons annually are recommended by physicians to reside in this village, for the benefit of the air. To the south and west, and north-west, is an extensive heath, much admired by gentlemen

lemen who are fond of coursing, and equally so by gentlemen of the turf, the race-ground upon this heath being equal, if not superior, (after Newmarket) to most of the race-grounds in England.

Swaffham races are annually held in September, about the 25th or 26th of that month, at which time there is generally a great meeting of the nobility from Newmarket, and of the gentlemen and ladies in the county. The races continue for three days: there are three fifty pound plates by subscription, and a gold cup annually given by the earl of Orford, to be run for by three year old colts or fillies, one heat of a mile. Two stewards are annually chose at the meeting for the year ensuing, who have the direction of every thing relative to the races, and are generally named the last day of the meeting. There are assemblies the first and third nights for the ladies, and frequently a concert of music the intermediate night. A new assembly-room has been lately erected on the west side of the market-hill, and assemblies, by subscription, are held there every month in the year. The market-hill is spacious, and capable of containing a great many booths at the time of the fairs. The market is considerable, and kept every week on the Saturday.

Besides the annual horse-races in September, great coursing matches for greyhounds have been lately established, which usually take place in the months of November and March, and last for a week. A lady patroness is appointed. The matches are never made for more than a guinea, though bets bye are frequently laid. The matches are regularly entered, and the greyhounds names, play or pay, half-forfeit, &c. put down in the book, in the same order as the running

running horses at Newmarket, and observed with the same nicety and distinction.

The inhabitants of the town still enjoy privileges beyond their neighbours, the town being ancient demesne.

Charles I. in the 13th year of his reign, on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March, 1637, exemplified the privileges of ancient demesne manors, that they were free from payment of toll, and from contribution to the expences of knights of parliament, not to be put in assizes upon juries, or any recognizances, but only in the court of the manor; the manors of Swaffham market, Narford, North and South Pickenham, Pargrave, Bouldon, and Cressingham Magna, in this hundred, are certified to be ancient demesne by the chamberlains of the Exchequer, and command is given to let them enjoy those privileges, unless they held lands and tenements of another tenure, for which they may be put on juries at the assizes.

In the parish of Swaffham, north-west of the town about half a mile, by the Lynn road, was an hamlet, in ancient days called Stow, Guthlake's Stow, from a chapel that was there, dedicated to St. Guthlac. In the register of the abbey of Castleacre, now in the library of the right hon. the earl of Oxford, this place is often mentioned, and is now by corruption called Good Luck's Closes. The chapel was standing in the beginning of the reign of Edward IV. anno 1464.

Swaffham, from the misfortune of a dreadful fire some few years since, has now many new houses erected in it, and is perhaps the most beautiful village in the county of Norfolk. There were many

good houses in it before the fire, and the situation has always been admired.

The leet of this town is in the lord of the manor.

The church of Swaffham is built in the form of a cathedral, having a nave, north and south aisles, a chancel, and two transept chapels, making it in the shape of a cross. It is a lofty, magnificent Gothic pile, of a very venerable aspect, being the largest and most beautiful parish church in the neighbourhood: the whole is covered with lead, and built for the most part with flint, free-stone, brick, &c. The upper part of the nave is coped, and embattled with free-stone; at the west end of which is a stately large and lofty four-square tower, built entirely of free-stone, and embattled; about the water-table, and under the battlements, are two shields, in one of which are the cross-keys, and in the other two swords a-crofs, the emblems of St. Peter and St. Paul, to whom the church is dedicated.

At each corner of the battlements stands a pinnacle of carved stone, and on the summit of the tower was a curious turret of wood, covered with lead, in which hung the saints bell; round this, in the form of a lanthorn, stood several tall shafts covered with lead, and bearing on their heads a weather-cock\*. In this tower, which by its height is seen many miles round, hang eight musical bells; and there is a clock with a dial plate on the west side.

This

\* In 1777, this wooden spire, or turret, was taken down, and a new one of a lighter construction erected, at a considerable expence.

This tower was begun in 1507, and finished in 1510; sir Robert Lovell, knt. of this town, and John Oxburgh and John Newel, church-reeves, laid the first stone, on which was DEO SACRUM.

At the entrance on the west side of the tower, is a neat large folding-door of oak, lately erected; over this, on the tower, are several niches for images, two of a very great length, one on each side of the great west window: from the west door to the entrance into the chancel is about forty-one yards, which is equal to the length of the nave of the cathedral of St. David's, and the breadth of the nave, together with the two side aisles within the walls, is about seventeen yards.

The vault of this church, and the side aisles, are supported by fine slender pillars, consisting each of four small pilasters joined together, and forming fourteen lofty curious turned arches, seven on a side; over these arches are twenty-eight neat light windows, fourteen on a side, two over each arch. The roof is wonderfully beautiful, of oak, neatly wrought and carved,

At the west end of the nave stands a stone font, with an high wainscot cover, and as you ascend, on the pavement lies a grey marble stone, but the brasses are reaved.

As the mural monuments and grave-stones in this church are numerous, and chiefly uninteresting, we shall content ourselves with mentioning but a few of them.

About the middle of the south aisle is a little chapel, thirteen feet in length, and about eight in breadth,

with a large window to the south. This is the chapel of Corpus Christi, founded by John Pain and Catherine his wife, who are there interred.

At the upper end of this aisle lies a large grey marble stone, with the portraiture of a person in complete armour; on his surcoat are the arms of Touchet and Audley, quarterly, in memory of sir John Audley, of this town, who lived and died in the reign of Henry VIII. and the same shield is painted on the glass in the window of the parlour in the vicar's house.

The nobility and gentry, in ancient days, wore over their armour rich surcoats of silk and satin embroidery, as the heralds do at this day, whereon was curiously wrought the arms of their house and family in their proper colours, &c. and such a coat the renowned lord Audley wore at the battle of Poictiers in France, Sept. 19, 1356.

This stone had also the portraiture of his lady, and several shields in brass, &c. all which are reaved except part of one at the foot of the stone, and on the left side, which seems (being almost obscure) to be the only impalement of his lady, the other part being covered by a pew.

At the east end of the south aisle is Blake's Chantry, where the archdeacon's court is held.

The north aisle of this church is fabulously said to be built by one John Chapinan, a tinker of this town; a ridiculous story, and fit only to be related by such writers as the authors of *Jack the Giant-Killer* and *Tom Hickathrift*; and it is wonderful it should find a place in the Remembrances of sir Roger

ger Twysden, and the publications of that great antiquary Thomas Hearne.

As the tradition of this foolish story still exists with the inhabitants, it must not be omitted entirely, however absurd. It is briefly this.

A Swaffham tinker dreamt he should hear good news on London bridge. He went there, and was told, if he would dig under a certain tree in Swaffham in Norfolk described to him, he should find a pot of money. He returned, and found the pot, and afterwards another. A subscription taking place amongst the inhabitants for re-building the north aisle of the church, the tinker enquired the estimate, and subscribed the whole of it, and afterwards built the present beautiful steeple.

*Credat Judicis Apella.*

HOR.

And in testimony thereof, there was then his picture, with his wife and three children, in every window of the aisle, with an inscription running through the bottom of all those windows, viz.

*Orate pro bono Statu Johannis Chapman,  
Uxor ejus, et Liberorum suorum, qui quidem Johannes hanc Alam cum fenestrarum, tecto et — fieri fecit.*

There are few histories of dreams to be relied on: the most authentic is that of sir William Johnson in America, the relation of which may make some amends to the reader for the recital of the above ridiculous story.

Old Hendrick, the Indian sachem, or king of the Iroquois, who served under sir William in the last war,

war, seeing some rich suits of laced cloaths at Johnson's Hall upon the Mohawk river, soon after in conversation told sir William, " He had had a dream : he dreamt sir William made him a present of one of those rich suits of cloaths." Sir William the next day sent one to him, and returning his visit in a few weeks, sir William told his old friend the sachem, that " he had had a dream : he dreamt that Hendrick had made him a present of three thousand acres of land that lay behind Johnson's Hall." Old Hendrick granted them, but at the same time, with a significant simile, told sir William, " He dreamed too hard for him, and he (old " Hendrick) must dream no more." These lands are to this day called Sir William Johnson's *dreaming Lands.*

That the north aisle of this church was founded by John Chapman, who was churchwarden in 1462, is beyond dispute ; but that the founder was a pedlar, is very improbable. Mr. Parkin very properly reprobates this monkish legend, as a tradition favouring too much of the cloister.

In this aisle is a large and lofty gallery, erected for the singers, the ascent is by a stone stair-case in the wall adjoining, the way no doubt to the antient rood-loft. At the west end stands a very large fire-engine, with two keys in saltire painted on it, and the year 1706.

At the east end of the nave stands the chancel ; the arch here, and at the west end, are very grand and spacious, rising almost to the summit of the roof of the church. It is in length about fifteen yards, and seven in breadth, and the roof is of oak, supported by angels.

Against

Against the north wall, near the communion table, is an arch in the wall, and under it, on an altar monument of stone, lies the effigy of John Botewright, D. D. master of Corpus Christi College in Cambridge, chaplain to Henry VI. rector of this parish, in his doctor's robes. On the body of this monument are four shields, one containing three cups, with the sacramental wafer on the lips of each of them ; a second with the triangular emblem of the Trinity ; these are to represent his office and calling of the priesthood. The third shield bears three boats or barges, and the fourth has three wimbles or augurs ; the two last are by way of rebus, and in allusion to his name, *Boatright* or *Botewright*. This way of setting forth the office of the deceased, by some instrument, &c. is very antique : it was practised by the Greeks and Romans in the age of Homer : and in the age of Botewright, &c. nothing was more usual than to transmit to posterity the names of founders, benefactors, and persons interred, by way of rebus, and hieroglyphical marks.

Dr. Botewright bequeathed legacies to the poor of Swaffham, and a croft to the town, called the Shooting Land, on which the present free-school is built. He was the seventh master of Corpus Christi or Bennet College, to which he gave a manor in Overe, and a manor in Charteris in Cambridgeshire, to found a fellow in that college. He was born in this town of Swaffham, and was proctor of the university of Cambridge.

The present church was begun about the end of the reign of Edward IV. when the chancel was finished, but the church was not completed till the reign of Henry VII. and the tower at the west end was not finished till the year 1510.

On

On the north side of this chancel is the vestry, in which is a library ; the greatest part of the books were the gift of the Spelmans, of Narburgh. Here is preserved a manuscript paper book, commonly called the Black Book of Swaffham, containing a terrier of the lands belonging to the church, an inventory of the vestments, plate, &c.

There was a large gilt chalice, and two lesser chalices ; a cloth of gold tissue belonging to St. Nicholas' Altar, and an altar cloth of black velvet, and another of fine linen at Trinity Altar, given by Dr. Botewright, with much more fine plate and vestments.

The general commemoration or mass for the dead benefactors, was solemnized every Whitsunday, and the day following ; mass of requiem was sung by note, especially for Dr. Botewright, and then a long string of benefactors were commemorated.

In the reign of Edward I. the earl of Richmond was patron of this church ; the rector had then a mansion-house near to the church : the vicar had also a mansion-house near the church.

Peter Caversham, in 1497, was the last rector here : for Henry VIII. patron of the church, by charter, dated at Westminster the 12th of June, in the 18th year of his reign, granted to John, then abbot, and to the prior and convent of Westminster, and their successors, the advowson and patronage of this rectory, in free alms, with licence to appropriate the same to them and their successors, pursuant to which, the said rectory was appropriated in the year 1503 ; and Henry VIII. in the 34th year of his reign, granted the rectory to the dean and chapter of Westminster,

Westminster, on the erection of that church into an episcopal see, to hold freely in pure alms, except 3l. 6s. 6d. paid yearly to the bishop of Norwich, and 10s. to the archdeacon for procurations, and the impropriation is at this day in the church of Westminster. Dr. Reuben Clarke, late archdeacon of Essex, had the lease of the impropriation, in which he was succeeded by his son.

There was from the most ancient times a vicar under the rector, presented by him, so that the rectory was a *finecure*.

About the year 1550, the patronage of this vicarage was given to the bishop of Norwich by Edward VI. and the bishops of Norwich have collated ever since.

In 1748, Dr. Samuel Lisle, then bishop of Norwich, collated his domestic chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Gilbert Bouchery, A. M. the present vicar, son of Weyman Bouchery, late rector of Blakenham super Montem in Suffolk: he was born at Ipswich, and was scholar and fellow at Clare-Hall in Cambridge. On his taking Swaffham, he voided the rectory of Llanymynech in Shropshire, which he was collated to by bishop Lisle, when on the see of St. Asaph, of whose gift he now holds the prebendary of Meliden in the church of St. Asaph, and the finecure rectory of Llansanfrajd in Montgomeryshire.

Mr. Bouchery is a man of the greatest worth and piety: a divine, whose learning and abilities are only exceeded by his exemplary conduct.

The vicarage is valued at 14l. 5s. 10d. in the king's books.

There

There are two small manors in this town, known by the name of Haspal's and Whitesand's, the quit-rents of which, and other dues belonging to the same, the churchwardens receive for the use of the town.

Also an estate of about 50l. a year, which being formerly chauntry lands, was given to the town by Edward IV. and since confirmed by several royal grants, and is appropriated to the relief of nine poor widows, the reparation of the church, mending the highways, repairing the town-houses and town-wells, some of which are fifty yards deep, and payment of the clerk and sexton their wages.

Susan Machin, widow, gave 12s. yearly to the churchwardens, for the use of twelve widows who take no collection.

Edward Chapman, gent. gave 10l. the interest for the poor, to be paid by the churchwardens.

Thomas Theodorick gave three dwellings for six poor people.

There is also an alms-house in Mangate-street.

There is now on the north side of the church-yard a house standing towards the eastern part of it, the lower part for the use of the clerk of the parish church, and the upper part for the use of a school-master, to be chosen by the minister and churchwardens, and the majority of the parishioners then present.

There is a free-school lately built in the Camping Land, founded by Nicholas Hammond, gent. late of this parish, with a dwelling for the master, and the

the interest of 500l. (until a purchase can be made) for teaching twenty boys: the choice of the master is in the following trustees, the vicar of Swaffham, the rectors of Necton, Great Cressingham, Ashill and Hilburgh, and their successors for ever.

Over the school-house door are the crest and arms of Hammond. Crest on a mound vert. a dove rising with an olive-branch in its mouth proper. Or, on a chev'ron fesse, voided az. three martlets of the field.

In 1736, Nicholas Hammond, esq. gave by will in 1724 1000l. 500l. for erecting a school-house, 500l. for endowing the same, for instructing twenty boys in reading, writing and arithmetic.

*Benefactors who promote knowledge, virtue, and industry,  
Deserve to be recorded on earth, and rewarded in Heaven.*

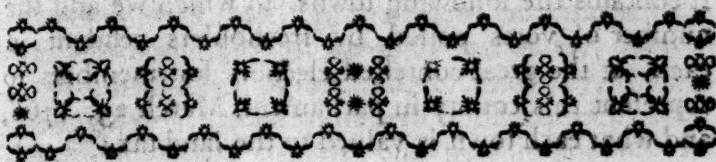
Here was also, besides the parochial church of Swaffham, and the chapel of St. Guthlac, a free chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, said to be in the manor of John de Britannia, earl of Richmond, and in the parish of Swaffham.

This town hath been also noted as the birth-place of brother John de Swaffham, D. D. of Cambridge, and a Carmelite or White Friar of the monastery at Lynn, where he was educated. He was allowed to be a man of great learning, but employed it in a very strenuous manner against the doctrine of Wickliff, against whose followers he wrote a book. He was made bishop of Bangor by pope Gregory XI. and lived in 1394, in the time of Richard II. being an active man under pope Boniface IX. at the council held at Stamford against the disciples of Wickliff.

Swaffham

Swaffham lies on the great road from Norwich, twenty-eight miles, to Lynn, fifteen; and is distant from East Dereham twelve miles, Fakenham fifteen, Downham fourteen, Brandon fourteen, Watton nine, and London ninety-two. A stage-coach passes through Swaffham from London, from Lynn, from Norwich, and from Fakenham, twice a week. The principal inn here is the Crown, where a very respectable lodge of the ancient fraternity of Free-Masons is held the first Monday of every Month.





THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
NORFOLK.



Hundred of GRIMSHOE,

RIMSHOO, or GRIMESHOU, is bounded on the east with the hundreds of Shropshire and Wayland, and on the north with the hundred of South Greenhoe, from which it is divided by the river Wissey; (but at Cranwich it crosses the river, and takes in the townships of Colveston and Ickburgh.) on the west, with the hundred of Clackclose, and on the south with the Little-Ouse, which divides it from Suffolk.

It is about sixteen miles in length from south-east to north-west, and from five to seven miles in breadth.

A

It

## HUNDRED OF

It contains the following towns, to which we add the number of votes polled by freeholders resident in each, at the great contested election for members to represent this county in parliament, March 23, 1768, and what each town is valued to the land tax:

	W.	deG.	A.	C.	Land Tax.
Buckenham-Tofts	1	1	0	0	£119 16 8
Colveston	-	1	1	0	139 16 8
Cranwich	-	1	1	0	199 16 8
Croxton	-	0	0	1	212 5 0
Feltwell	-	25	28	5 2	1133 0 0
Hockwold with Wilton	-	5	6	17 16	991 11 8
Ickburgh		1	1	0 0	174 11 8
Lynford	-	0	1	1 0	189 16 8
Methwold	-	15	24	9 2	1197 0 0
Mundford	-	5	5	0 0	273 13 4
Northwold	-	23	25	1 1	1052 1 8
Santon	-	1	1	0 0	99 16 8
Stanford	-	0	0	0 0	299 13 4
Sturston	-	0	0	0 0	209 15 0
Tofts, West	-	0	0	0 0	319 13 0
Weeting with Broomhill	2	5	8	4 2	560 5 0
Total		83	102	38 24	£7172 13 0

It most probably derives its name from Grime, and Hoe, a hilly, champaign country. This Grime was some considerable leader, or general, probably of the Danes, in this quarter; and if he was not the *præfus comitatus*, or vicecomes, that is, the shire-greeve, or sheriff, he was undoubtedly the *centuriæ præpositus*, that is, the hundred-greeve, and as such gave the name to it, which it retains at this day.

About the centre of this hundred, two miles east of Weeting, in the road from Brandon to Norwich,

is

is a very curious Danish incampment, in a semi-circular form, consisting of about twelve acres, on the side of a hill, or rising ground, of marl, or chalk; in this space are great numbers of large deep pits, joined in a regular manner, one near to another, in form of a quincunx, the largest seeming to be in the centre, where probably the general's, or commander's tent was. These pits are dug so deep, and are so numerous, that they are capable not only of receiving a very great army, but also of covering and concealing them in such a manner, that travellers passing by cannot discern them. At the east end of this intrenchment (called by the neighbourhood *The Holes*) is a large tumulus, pointing towards Thetford, (about five or six miles distant) which perhaps might also have served as a watch tower, or place of signal; and here the hundred court used to be held. This remarkable place retains also the name of Grime's-Graves, as well as that of *The Holes*, taking its name from the aforesaid Grime, and from the islandick, or old Danish words, *grafa fodere*, to dig. That this part of the country (being open and champaign) was a great seat of war between the Saxons and Danes appears from the many tumuli throughout this hundred, there being scarce any township without more or less of them. These tumuli were erected by the northern nations, for the sepulchre of their most considerable men and leaders who fell in battle, and served not only as monuments of honour to the deceased, but as tokens of victory and terror, and were trophies of conquest, to shew how far they had led their armies, and conquered.

In these have been often found the bones of men, pieces of old armour\*, &c. and in Somersetshire, under  
A 2 one,

\* Mr. Blomfield had by him the head of a Danish spear, made  
of

4 HUNDRED OF

one, was found a vault arched, wherein lay a man in rich armour, with two phials of some kind of liquor by his head, as it were *pro viatico*.

This hundred, with that of Wayland, &c. were anciently the demesnes of the kings of England, but king John gave them to Roger de Tony. In the 34th of Henry III. it was valued at six marks; and in the 52d of that king William de St. Omer held it, paying 20s. per ann.

It appears by the presentment of the jury in the 3d of Edward I. when there was an inquisition taken, that Petronilla de Tony held it in dower, with the hundred of Wayland, &c. and William de St. Omer held it by courtesy, having married Petronilla, widow of Roger de Tony. The commissioners for this hundred on the king's behalf, on the oaths of twelve men for the hundred, and five men out of each town, were to enquire of all privileges that the lords of the manors held, what usurpations were made on the king's privileges during his absence, and the tenures of their manors.

In the 9th of the said king the hundred was then held by William de St. Omer, who paid 50s. blank-farm at the castle of Norwich for it.

In the 3d of Edward II. Robert de Tony died seised of it, leaving it to Alice, wife of Thomas de Leybourn, his sister and heir, who being afterwards married to Guy de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, it came into that family; but in the 21st of the said

king

of bras, which was found under one of these tumuli in Methwold-Field, in this hundred, entirely perfect, except a large gap on its edge.

king it was granted to John earl of Salisbury, and his heirs male, by the king.

In the 2d of Henry IV. it came into the Warwick family again, and Thomas earl of Warwick held it. In the 24th of Henry VI. Henry duke of Warwick died seised, leaving it to Ann, his daughter and heir, then but three years old, who died soon after, so that it descended to Ann, sister to Henry, wife to Richard Nevill, earl of Salisbury, who was declared earl of Warwick, and was that great earl intitled *Richard Make-King*.

In the 3d of Henry VII. we find it conveyed to that king by Ann countess of Warwick; and it remained in the crown till the 36th of Henry VIII. when that king granted it to sir Richard Southwell, of Wood-Rising, in Mitford hundred; and from the Southwells it came to the Cranes; and about 1662, was parcel of the possessions of William Crane, esq; of Wood-Rising.

It was in the hands of Mr. Wright, late of Brandon, in Suffolk, son of the Rev. Mr. Wright, vicar of Stepney.

The tenths of the towns of this hundred were 90l. 15s. 6d. q. Deductions 14l. 13s. 5d. ob. Rem. 76l. 2s. ob. q.

The whole hundred (Santon excepted) is in the deanry of Granwich, and under the archdeacon of Norfolk.

A g Spots

and number of bushels will be given out to each by  
MAHON

*Seats and principal houses in this hundred.*

<i>Buckingham,</i>	<i>Lord Petre.</i>
<i>Feltwell,</i>	<i>Robert Clough, esq.</i>
<i>Hockwold,</i>	<i>Cyril Wyche, esq.</i>
<i>Lynsford,</i>	<i>James Nelthorpe, esq.</i>
<i>Northwold,</i>	<i>Henry Partridge, esq.</i>
<i>Tostis, West,</i>	<i>George Nelson, esq.</i>
<i>Weeting,</i>	<i>Earl of Montrath.</i>

Grimshoe hundred, according to the signification of its name, is a hilly, champaign, open country, the land being sandy and barren, unless improved by the farmer's industry, or by the flocks of sheep which are kept in almost every town in the hundred for that purpose, there being no where better mutton than this barren land affords, the sheep being not liable to the disease called the rot, as they often are in the more fertile parts of this county; the soil, though it is a sand at top, not only affords excellent chalk for lime, but good earth for brick, and in some places blue clay, which, laid upon the land, makes an excellent manure, and produces abundance of corn. The rabbits also, which are on the most barren part, are not only the more excellent for that reason, but renders that, which would otherwise be of no use, to be of equal value with much better land; so that by this means, though the champaign, or fielding country, (as it is commonly called) may appear to the traveller to be of little value either to the owner, or occupier, it is in reality far otherwise, being rendered by these improvements as valuable as a far better soil.

The whole hundred pays 15l. 4s. 9d. to the general rate of the county at a six hundred pound levy.

BUCKENHAM-

BUCKENHAM-TOFTS, BOKENHAM PARVA, or LITTLE-BUCKENHAM, wrote in Doomsday-book Buckenham, is so called to distinguish it from the other towns of the same name in this county. At the survey we meet with two lordships here, one held by Hugh de Montford, and the other by Roger, son of Rainard.

Hugh de Montford had what was valued at 8s. per ann. the whole was one leuca long, and half a league broad, and paid 8d. of the 20s. gelt; the soc was in the king, and the earl of Norfolk,

This lordship was held of the Mountfords soon after the conquest, by a family that assumed their name from the town; and William, son of sir Ralph de Buckenham, had a charter for free-warren here, in Ellingham, and Illington, in the 38th of Henry III, and before this, in the 4th of king John, a fine was levied between William de Buckenham, tenant, and Petronilla de Mortimer, petent, of the advowson of the church of Buckenham Parva, and the moiety of a mill. In the 3d of Edward I. Simon de Nevill was lord, and had the assize of bread and beer of his tenants, and was patron of the church; but in 1300 Hubert Hacon held it, and presented; after this Margery, relict of Roger Cosyn, of Ellingham Magna, presented in 1313, as lady of the manor; and in 1323 John Potys, of Wilton; but in 1337 sir Simon de Hethererset, kn. was lord and patron; soon after, in 1357, it was in the hands of Richard Gegge, of Saham-Tony, who presented to the church in 1367; and in this family of Gegge it continued till about the reign of Edward IV. when it came to John Austeyn, esq. by the matriage of Margaret, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Richard Gegge, esq. In the 2d of Edward VI. sir John Spring died lord  
and

3 HUNDRED OF

and William Spring, esq. his son and heir, had livery of it in the 1st of queen Mary; this William was afterwards a knight, and lord of Pakenham, in Suffolk; he died February 10, in the 42d of Elizabeth, seised of this manor, and those of Pakenham, &c. in Suffolk. In the reign of James I. we find it in the family of Rich; and in 1614 sir Robert Rich (afterwards earl of Warwick) presented as lord; but in the reign of Charles II. Mr. Appleton, who married the widow of sir Robert Crane, of Suffolk, bart. enjoyed it; and Robert Fairford, Isaac Preston, and Mr. Craddock, conveyed it to Mr. Vincent, who built here the hall that is now standing, and is a neat pile of brick, on the summit whereof is a lofty lantern, or turret; and on the top of this house he (being a very great humourist) erected a fish-pond, with a basin of lead to contain the water, and had pipes of lead which brought water by an engine from a canal in the gardens, into every room (as it is said) of the house: he also built an elegant stable, and other offices, and made a park. From this Mr. Vincent (who mortgaged it to sir Thomas Meers) it came to Robert Partridge, esq. who dying in 1710, it passed to Henry Partridge, esq. his brother; and on his death to his son, Henry, who sold it about 1736 to the honourable Philip Howard, esq. brother to the duke of Norfolk; and the right honourable Robert Edward Petre, lord Petre, of Writtle, is now the present lord.

The other lordship was held at the survey by Roger, son of Rainard, valued at 11s. and the king and the earl had the soc.

This soon after came to the earl Warren, and was held of him by the ancient family of Mortimer, of Attleburgh; in the reign of Henry III. John Langetot held half a quarter of a fee of sir Robert de

de Mortimer, he of the earl of Warren, and the earl of the king. In the 9th of Edward II. Henry de Walpole was lord. In the 20th of Edward III. sir John de Hedeset, and Jeffrey de Hall, held it of sir Constantine de Mortimer; and in the 3d of Henry IV. it was in the hands of Richard Gegge, and so became united to the other manor, and hath continued so ever since, and for this lordship there is a yearly tent paid to the lordship of Hillburgh at this day.

There is nothing remaining of this old village but the hall, and the miller's house.

The prior of Wormegay had lands here, taxed in 1428 at 6d. and the prior of Broombill was taxed for his at the same time 6d.

The church has been so long demolished, that the scite of it is not known; it is said to have been about the upper end of the canal in the gardens, near the garden-house; it was dedicated to St. Andrew, and there was in it the image of our Lady, as appears from an old will, wherein a legacy was given to repair her porke\*.

In the rector's answer to king James, in 1603, he observes that there were then about ten communicants here, and that they go to church and receive the sacrament at Stanford, the church of Buckenham being long since utterly decayed.

This rectory is a sinecure, valued in the king's books at 3l. and being sworn of the clear yearly value of 15l. per ann. is discharged of first fruits and tenths; synodals are 2d. bishop's procurations, 18d.

\* A pedestal, and niche that she stood in.

In 1728 Henry Partridge, esq. was patron; and in 1776 the Rev. David Jones was presented to this rectory by Thomas Newman, clerk, p. h. v.

**COLVESTON, COLNESTON, or COULSTON,** lies on the opposite shore to Cranwich, on the north side of the river Wissey, the hundred of Grimshoe crossing here that river, and taking in this town, and that of Ickburgh. In Doomsday it is wrote Covestuna, and derives its name from the Saxon word *love*, a small creak, and *tun*, or *ton*, a town, or village.

At the survey, it was the lordship of William earl Warren, but in the Confessor's time was held by a freeman of Harold's, afterwards king of England, and was valued at 8s. per ann. It was five furlongs long, and four broad, and paid 5d. ob. when the hundred paid 20s. geld.

Soon after the conquest this village was held of the earl Warren, the capital lord, by a family that assumed their name from it, a practice frequent in that age. And Jordan de Colveston, lord, by his deed without date, (about the reign of Henry I.) gave to the monks of Castle Acre the rent of 3s. per ann. out of his mill called Wor-Milne, in this place. After this, about the reign of king John, Richard de Gelham held it of the aforesaid earl, by the service of half a knight's fee, but in the reign of Henry III. sir John de Lodne was lord, and gave by deed to the monks of Castle Acre 3s. per ann. out of his manor, instead of the 3s. given them out of the mill above-mentioned.

In the 3d of Edward I. Robert de Loden, or Lodne, was lord, and had the assize of bread and beer here; and the men of this town, and Ickburgh, are said to be obliged

obliged to go to the leet of the hundred of Weyland, and to pay 12d there; in the 9th of Edward II. Lettice Atte-hooe was returned lady of the manor; and in the following year John earl Warren aliened, with the king's licence, this lordship to sir Ralph de Cobham, and his heirs, to be held of them in capite; and in the 20th of Edward III. this Ralph lord Cobham died seised of it and John was his son and heir, by Mary, his wife, daughter of William lord Roos, and widow of Thomas de Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, and in the next year proved his age, and had livery.

In the 33d of Edward III. being then a knight, he served that king in the wars of France, and had in his retinue sir John de Northwold, sir John Crispin, John Devenish, John Atte-church, &c. In the 37th of the said king, on the 3d of June, he granted to Edward III. and his heirs, (after his own decease) this manor, with many others, in several counties, and delivered a ring of gold to the king, in name of seisin, and died seised of it in the reign of Richard II.

On the death of sir John Cobham the lordship came to John de Harling, of east Harling, in Norfolk, to whom, and his heirs, Edward III. gave the reversion; but in the 3d of Henry IV. Richard Holditch, esq. was found to hold it in capite of the king, of his manor of Methwold, by knight's service; and in 1592 Henry Holditch, esq. presented to this church. After this it came by the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Henry Holditch, esq. to sir John Sidney, of St. Cleers, in Kent, knt. and bart. who sold it in the year 1650 to Robert Wilson, of Merton, in Surrey, esq. who left it to his second son, Edward Wilson, esq. who built a neat manor-house here. From him it came to the late Robert Wilson, esq. of Dillington, and Henry William Wilson, esq. lieutenant colonel

colonel of the western battalion of Norfolk militia, (1759) is the present proprietor.

There is nothing now remaining of this old village but the aforesaid manor-house, and a farm-house adjoining.

The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The prior of Broomhill was taxed for his temporalities here, in 1428, 4s. 6d.

The church has been in ruins time immemorial. It stood a little west of the present farm-house, and was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. In it there were the arms of England, the earl Warren, and the earl of Clare. John de Lodne, lord of the town, in the 20th of Henry III. granted the patronage of it to the prior and convent of Lewes, in Sussex; but it appears from the institution books, that that convent did not present till the year 1375.

This church formerly belonged to St. Bartholomew of Ickburgh, as the mother and baptismal church.

In January 23. 1347. Edward III. presented on account of the minority of the son and heir of sir John de Brews, knt.

About this time (1350) the prior, &c. of Lewes, recovered the presentation against sir John de Brews.

The rector was deprived in 1553, being a married priest.

This

This is a rectory consolidated with the vicarage of Didlington, 1616, and the real value of both being but 40l. per ann. no tenths or first fruits are paid. This rectory was valued at 4l. 2d. ob.

In 1748 the Rev. John Brundish, jun. was presented to this united rectory by the late Robert Wilson, esq. of Didlington.

**CRANWICH, or CRANWISE,** lies east of Northwold, on the south side of the river Wissey, and derives its name from the Saxon word *garne*, (Angulus) a turn, nook, or corner, and *wit*, a bay, port, or landing place, or from *garne*, and the river Wissey, being wrote in Doomsday-book *Craneville*.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor there were two lordships, one was held by a free-man of Harold, (afterwards king) valued at 60s. per ann.

The other moiety, or lordship, was held by a free-man of St. Audrey, and was valued at 60s. per ann.

The whole contained seven furlongs in length, and four in breadth; and paid 9d. ob. gelt when the hundred was assed at 20s. It belonged to the castle of Lewes.

On the conquest these lordships were given to the earl Warren by the Conqueror, and so being united became one manor.

In the reign of Henry I. Peter de Cranwich was lord, and held it of the earl Warren; this Peter gave to the convent of Castle Acre, founded by the earl Warren, part of a wood, 2s. per ann. in tithes, two solidates and ~~a~~ half of land, and ~~a~~ thousand eels per

per annum. Soon after this, in the same reign, the Caillys, or Cayleys, were lords. In the 12th of Henry III. Adam de Cayley purchased of William de Butery 40s. rent, issuing out of a mill, lands, &c. here, for sixteen marks of silver; and in the 3d of Edward I. sir Osbert de Cayley was lord, and claimed the assize of bread and beer here. On the death of sir Thomas de Cayley, about the 17th of Edward II. the lordship descended to sir Adam, son of sir Roger de Clifton, by Margaret, sister and heir to sir Thomas de Cayley. Sir John de Clifton was lord in the 50th of Edward III. and was summoned to parliament as a baron; he died at Rhodes, Jan. 8, 1388. From the Cliftons it went by an heiress, Margaret, married to sir Andrew Ogard, knt. who dying without issue, before her father, the lordship came to the Knevets, Elizabeth, sister of sir John Clifton, being married to sir John Knevet, grandson to sir John Knevet, lord chancellor of England; and in the 7th of Henry VIII. sir William Knevet, of Buckenham-castle, died seised of it, being held of the earl of Arundel. In the 28th of Henry VIII. sir Edmund Knevet sold the manor and advowson, &c. to John Boldero, and Stephen Heyward. John Boldero, his grandson, sold his part, or moiety, to William Heyward, son of Stephen, who was lord of the whole town, and patron in 1603. In the reign of Charles I. it came again to the family of Knevet, on the marriage of Emma, daughter and heir of William Heyward, gent. with —— Knevet, esq. of Ashwelthorpe; and in 1665 sir John Knevet presented to this rectory as lord and patron. In 1720 colonel P. Knevet sold it to Henry Partridge, esq. of Buckenham-House, whose son, Henry Partridge, esq. is the present lord.

The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The

The church is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and is a rude old single building of flint, boulder, &c. covered with tile, in length about thirty-five feet, and fifteen in breadth; to this nave is a chancel annexed, about thirty feet long, and fifteen broad, and covered with thatch. Here lie several marble grave-stones.

One is inscribed—*To Jane, the daughter of Thomas Steward, of Barton-Mills, esq. and the wife of William Hayward, buried November 23, 1633.*

Another,—*To William Hayward, gent. patron of this church, buried December 10, 1630.*

On a third this only legible, - - - - *Vir Pius. - - -*  
in memory (as it is said) of Mr. Doughty, rector.

At the west end of the nave stands a narrow but lofty round tower, of flint, &c. embattled and coped with free-stone, wherein hangs one bell. This tower is of great and venerable antiquity, built in the reign of the Danish kings, and probably by Harold king of England, of whom a free-man held a moiety of this town in the time of the Confessor.

In this church were formerly the arms of Clifton, painted in glas.

In 1603 there were sixty-five communicants, and William Hayward, of Bury, was patron.

In 1768 the Rev. William Green was presented to this rectory by Henry Partridge, esq. of Northwold.

This

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 8l. 9s. 7d. and being in clear value but 40l. per annum, is discharged of tenths and first fruits.

This town gives name to the deanry of Cranwich, which takes in all the churches within the hundreds of Grimshoe and South Greenhoe, except Santon, which is in the deanry of Thetford. In ancient days each deanry had its peculiar dean, of which it may not be improper to make a few remarks in this place.

Rural deans are very ancient, and no precise time has been determined when the office first began; it is probable it was in the Saxon time, and a learned author has observed \* that these deans in the church answered the place of the *tienherod* of the hundred, the head of the ten friborgs, or tithing-man, and that in imitation of this secular method the spiritual governors, the bishops, divided each diocese into deanries, or tithings, each of which had in its district ten parishes, or churches, and over every such district they appointed a dean, who should in spiritual matters, as the *tienherod* in civil, reconcile differences, receive complaints, and enquire into grievances, &c. The first mention of them is in the year 877; and in one of the laws of Edward the Confessor it was provided, that of the 8l. penalty for breach of the king's peace the king should have 100s. the earl 50s. and the bishop's dean, in whose deanry it was, the other 10s. which, according to the opinion of sir Henry Spelman, &c. is meant of the rural deans. If these deans were over such a number of churches in a city, they were called *Decani Urbani*; if in the country, *Decani Rurales*; and

as

\* Kennet's Paroch. Antiq. p. 633.

as hundreds and tithings kept their name, when they have no longer borne a strict relation to the number of villages, or people, so likewise the rural deans continued when they lost their first allusion to ten parishes, or churches, and the district of them was enlarged at the pleasure of the bishop; though some deanries do still retain the primitive allotment of ten churches, especially in Wales, where the most ancient usages continue.

These rural deans had their capitula, or chapters, made up of the instituted clergy, or their curates, as proxies for them, and the dean was president, or *prolocutor*; these were held at first every three weeks, afterwards once a month, but their principal chapters were assembled once a quarter; all rectors, and vicars, or their *capellans*, were bound to attend those chapters, and to bring information of all irregularities committed in their respective parishes. The place of holding these chapters was at first in any church within the deanry, where the minister of the place was to entertain the dean, and his immediate officers; but in a council at London, held by bishop Stratford in 1342, it was ordained, that such chapters should not be held in any obscure village where it was difficult to get provision, but in the larger and more eminent parishes, where the company could be best accommodated, and all the officials, and servants of the dean, were to have their charges defrayed by their master, without burden to the clergy.

In these chapters the dean published the decrees of provincial and episcopal synods, all ecclesiastical laws and canons, and enforced the execution of them; they had also the probate of wills, &c. the cognizance of all matrimonial causes, matters of divorce, and incontinency: thus we find that when Henry II. was

at York, a burgess of Scarborough complained to him of a rural dean that had taken from him 12d. and enjoined his wife penance as an adulteress, without proof, contrary to the king's law; they had also a great share in the trials for the right of advowson, and their more especial duty was to inspect, and censure the manners of the clergy, and to pronounce sentence of excommunication; they were also commissioned to receive the taxes of the clergy, subsidies, first fruits, tenths, &c. and the general taxation of benefices in England, called *The Norwich taxation*, (made by Walter Suffield, bishop of Norwich, the pope's deputy,) was taken in every deanry by the rural deans, and two or three rectors, or vicars, members of the chapter of that deanry. That these branches of their office and jurisdiction were of considerable profit must be granted, else we shall be at a loss to account for the exchanges that we frequently meet with between rectors, and dignitaries of the church, and these rural deans.

At the beginning they are said to be elected by the clergy of their own district, and when confirmed by the bishop, were not to be ejected without the joint consent of their own presbyters; and in later times, they were temporary, and removed, as Dr. Kennet asserts, by the bishop's sole power; but it is plain from the institutions of the deans of Cranwich, that they were collated by the bishop, and that it was no temporary office, or *durante episcopi bene placito*, they being styled *decani perpetui*, and also from their solemn resignations and exchanges of this office, for other preferments in the church.

Each rural dean had his seal belonging to his office, and we are told that the seal of the dean of Burchester, in Oxfordshire, was an oblong oval (as most

most religious seals were); the impress, a pelican standing on a pedestal, wounding her breast with her bill, and feeding her young with her own blood, and Mr. Blomfield had by him the probate of a will of Thomas Welthowe, of Boughton, near Downham, in Norfolk, dated Dec. 16, 1413, proved by Hugh Birdham, dean of Fincham, to which is affixed an oblong seal of red wax; the impress, a bird, probably a finch, on a tree, and a star in chief, and this legend, *Sigillum decanatus de Fyncham*, expressing both his own and his deanry's name in that device.

The rural deans were plain, honest men, not much skilled in the subtleties of the civil or canon law, but were not the less capable of their office and jurisdiction, as depending on known customs, and the rules of equity, but by degrees, when the method of ecclesiastical justice was turned into *arts* and *mysteries*, then began the canonists to pretend themselves the only fit ministers in all courts of Christianity, and insinuated themselves into the favour and counsels of the bishops, and so obtained the new titles of archdeacons, officials, and chancellors. and then easily run down these deans. Thus by the art and interest of the canonists, &c. the jurisdiction of this office declined so much, that little but the name and shadow of it was in being even in the age before the reformation. It has been wished, that our reformers would have restored this good and useful office to all its ancient rights, and laudable practices, and those great persons who were commissioned to revive the ecclesiastical laws of this realm agreed in their good opinion of it, prescribed a proper method, but it fell for want of confirmation by the legislative power, yet though it was not formally ratified, all those parts of it have no less the force of a law, (viz. all such ecclesiastical canons, constitutions, &c.) as are

not repugnant to the laws, statutes, &c. of the realm, of which inoffensive nature was this jurisdiction of rural deans. And in a provincial synod, held at London, April 3, 1571, it was ordained, that the archdeacon, when he had finished his visitation, should signify to the bishop what clergymen he found in every deanry so well endowed with learning and judgment as to be worthy to instruct the people in sermons, and to rule and preside over others; out of these the bishop may choose such as he will have to be rural deans. The little remains of this dignity and jurisdiction depend now on the customs of places, and the pleasure of diocesans; in some parts of this kingdom the rural deans have nothing left, but the burden of entertaining the rectors and vicars of the deanry at a solemn feast.

In 1315, October 27, Mr. Ralph de Belegrave was collated to this deanry by the bishop, with all its rights and privileges.

On the collation of the dean, Jan. 10, 1498, this injunction is entered:—*Et episcopus virtute obedientiae, firmiter injunxit omnibus et singulis abbatibus, prior, rector, vicar, curatis, &c. tam clericis quam laicis per dict. decanat. quod Hen. Goldwello Decano perpetuo eorum, obedient pariter et intendant in omnibus licitis, canoniceisque mandatis. Lib. instit. Norw.*

The deanry of Cranwich, or Kernewiz, contained forty-seven parishes, and was taxed at 30s.—Doomsday-book.

CROXTON. This village stands at the south-east corner of the hundred. In the time of the Conqueror, when Doomsday-book was made, it was called Crokestuna, was then in the king's hands, and

and kept for him by William de Noiers. Stigand archbishop of Canterbury was lord in Edward the Confessor's time, when it was valued at 10l. per ann. At the survey at 40s. but paid 100s. The whole was one leuca and an half in length, and one in breadth, and paid 20d. towards the 20s. gelt of the hundred.

Soon after this the Conqueror gave the town to William the great earl Warren, his son-in-law, who, at the conquest, had the greatest part of the hundred given him.

SIBTON MANOR, part of this town, was held under the said earl, by Thomas, and Simon Sorel; which Thomas, about the reign of Henry III. gave lands here to the abbey of Sibeton, in Suffolk, and from hence this manor took its name.

Besides the family of Sorel, several other persons gave lands here to the aforesaid abbey; insomuch that the temporalities of that religious house, in this town, were taxed in 1428 at 10l. 4s. 0d. per ann. and were afterwards (at the duke's request) assigned to the monks of Thetford, and at the dissolution of abbeys were given by Henry VIII. to the duke, and in the ninth year of James I. the bailiff of Thomas earl of Arundel and Surrey accounted thus for the profits of this manor. Rent of assize, and free tenants, 16d. of customary tenants 35l. 7d. ob. and for lands in the vicar's tenure 16d. This manor is now held by the duke of Norfolk, and there was a few years past a park well stocked with deer. The house, which stands in it, was formerly known by the name of North-Wick, because it stands on the north winding of the river, in respect to Thetford, and is now called Croxton-park,

BROOMHILL MANOR. Another part of this town was held of the aforesaid earl Warren, by the ancient family of De Plaiz, and was given by sir Hugh de Plaiz, about the beginning of the reign of Henry III. to the priory of Broomhill, in this hundred, on his founding that religious house. In the third of Henry IV. the prior held it of sir John Howard, (the heireis of the De Plaiz's being married into that family) and he of the duchy of Lancaster, then in the king's hands.

In 1428 the priory was taxed at 7l. 5s. 11d. for its temporalities in this town, and at 22 marks for its spiritualities, the rectory being appropriated to it.

This priory being suppressed before the general dissolution, by a bull of pope Clement VII. in the 20th of Henry VIII. the manor was granted to cardinal Wolsey; and on the cardinal's fall, the king, by exchange, gave it to Christ's college, in Cambridge, June 2, 1532, in which college it still remains.

Besides these manors, Walter Clere, and Bertram Cryoll, held lands here before the reign of Henry III. as did several other persons about this time. On July 3, 1412, licence was granted to Roger Stoppusley, to convey to the prior and monks of Thetford 53 acres of land, with the appurtenances, in Croxton and Thetford; and also to Edmund Blankpayn, to convey 30 acres of land lying in a field called Fauconfield, with the appurtenances in this village; and in 1428 these religious were taxed for their temporalities in this town at 2l. 1s. 8d.

The hospital also of St Mary Magdalen, in Thetford, had an interest in this town, in the 35th of Henry III. and there was a chapel, or religious house, said

said to belong to them, called *domus Dei*, near the church of Croxton, but we rather think it belonged to *domus Dei* at Thetford, and after to the canons.

On the dissolution of these houses the lands aforesaid came to sir Richard Fulmerston, and were settled by him on feoffees, for charitable uses; viz. the founding and endowing a school, and hospital, at Thetford, and are accordingly applied at this day.

Croxton stands on the side of a hill, and there are some trees growing on its summit, which are seen many miles in this open country, and are, by way of distinction, called Croxton High-Trees. In the fields of this town is a large mere, called Foul-mere, consisting of many acres of water.

The church is dedicated to All Saints; it is built of flint-stone, and boulder, and consists of a nave, or body, to which is annexed a south aisle, with good roofs of oak, covered with lead, and is in length about 58 feet, and in breadth, including the said aisle, about 28 feet. At the west end of the nave stands a very large font, with a capacious basin, supported by five pilasters of stone. The larger our fonts are, the greater is their antiquity, being made thus on account of immersion, which was in practice in the Saxon times, as is plain from the history of Etheldred II. son to king Edgar, who in his holy tincture (like Constantine Copronimus) defiled the font with natural excrements, and made Dunstan, the canonized saint, and then archbishop of Canterbury, to exclaim, or swear, *per Deum et matrem ejus ignavus homo erit*. William Wyrcester, in his *Metra de Regibus Anglia*, has the following distich on this subject:

*"Sacra statim natus Etheldredus violavit,  
Nam baptizatus, baptisterium violavit."*

At this very day the fonts in country churches are generally capacious enough to admit of immersion, if requested by the parent of the child.

A very worthy author\*, treating on private baptism, observes, "that water once blessed in so sacred a purpose, should neither be put to common use, or thrown away irreverently into the kennel, or sink; and we wonder our church (as the said author proceeds) has made no provision how the water used in the font at church should be disposed of. In the Greek church, particular care is taken that it never is thrown into the street, like common water, but poured into a hollow place under the altar, called in Greek *Thalassidion*, or *Choneion*, where it is soaked into the earth, or finds a passage." The said reverend author, upon enquiry, will find that the fonts in most, if not in all our country churches, have an hole and stopple at the bottom, as the holy water-pots also anciently had, which lets the water out into a pipe, or channel, reaching from the mouth of the hole to the ground, where a cavity is made on purpose to receive it, that it may soak into the earth, as is above observed in the Greek *Chonion*, so that the practice of the ancients is a plain and a just example for us to imitate.

At the east end of the south aisle is an ascent, where, in the time of popery, there was an altar, as in most churches of that age.

At

\* Wheatly on the common prayer, p. 383.

At the west end of the nave stands a tower of flint, &c. the lower part of it is round, and a Danish work, the upper part is now octangular, and has a cap, or cover of wood. In this tower hang three bells; one of them is dedicated to Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury.

This chancel is in length about 24 feet, in breadth about 15, and is covered with thatch. There is an ascent of two steps to the communion table, where, on the pavement, lie three marble grave-stones, one in memory of Elizabeth Snelling, wife of George Snelling, of Lee, in Kent, esq. and mother of Mary Snelling, who married William Smith, of Croxton, gent. She died September 26, 1678, aged 72.

Against the north wall is a compartment of marble and stone, ornamented with a cherub, gilt, and foliages; and on the summit a shield, Fletcher impaling Wood, inscribed—*To Thomas Fletcher, esq. one of the readers of Lincoln's Inn, who married Frances, the eldest daughter of Robert Wood, esq. late of Tharston, and had issue by her nine sons, and seven daughters. He died February 4, 1656. The said Frances Fletcher died May 10, 1684.*

In the east window is the shield of the earl Warren.

In 1401 this rectory was appropriated to the priory of Broomhill, being the gift of sir Richard de Plaiz, and a vicarage endowed, and taxed at seven marks, which was presented to by the priory.

The last vicar presented by the prior died in 1536, when it was given to Christ college, Cambridge.

Before

Before the appropriation the rector had a house, and 50 acres of land, though now there is only half an acre of glebe, where the vicarage-house once stood.

The vicarage is valued at 6l. 13s. 4d. Tenth 13s. 4d. and is discharged of both, being in clear value but 23l. per ann. and in 1603 had 70 communicants.

Sir John Saunders Seabright, bart. of Beachwood in Hertfordshire, lieutenant general of his majesty's forces, colonel of the royal Irish regiment of foot, and member of parliament for the city of Bath, has the chief property in this town.

Croxton is distant from Thetford about three miles, on the post-road to Watton.

In 1775 the Rev. Edmund Trant was presented to this vicarage by the master and fellows of Christ's college, Cambridge.

FELTWELL. This town lies north of Hockwold and Wilton, and was given by Ethelwald bishop of Winchester, in the reign of king Edgar, to the monastery of Ely. In Doomsday-book it is wrote Fatwella, and Feltwell, and may derive its name from *feat* and *wella*, that is, a pure water, or spring; or rather from the Saxon word *fleot*, which signifies an estuary, canal, or bay, all which agree well with the *Ycite* of this village, on the side of those great waters which came up to it before the draining of the fens.

In the time of Leofwine, fifth abbot of Ely, when the tenures and services of several townships belonging to that monastery were fixed, this was obliged to furnish the abbey with provisions for two weeks in every year.

year. The abbot had 45 socmen, who, as often as he commanded, were obliged to plow his land, to weed, cut, and bind his corn, and carry it to the barn, and bring provisions to the monastery; and as often as the abbot wanted horses\*, to send them to him, and whenever they forfeited, the abbot had the forfeitures; but on the conquest earl Warren encroached on many of these privileges, and deprived the monastery of a considerable part of the town.

What the church of Ely held at the general survey was said to be one league and an half in length, and one in breadth, and was valued at 12*l.* per ann.

BISHOP of ELY'S MANOR. This part was held by all the succeeding abbots, till the reign of Henry I. at which time the monastery of Ely being turned into a bishop's see, this manor, with many others, was vested in the bishop; and accordingly in the 35th of Henry III. the bishop of Ely had a charter for free-warren in all his lands here, and held the manor of the king in capite.

In 1277, in the 6th of Edward I. the bishop had a gallows, pillory, view of frankpledge, conualance of bushels, &c. and liberty to hold all pleas which the sheriff might, with writ or without. The demesnes are thus distinguished. In Southfield 40 acres and an half; in Portgatefield 121 acres; in Eastfield 140 acres; in Mikleberedfield 217 acres; in Loverkehilfield 173 acres and an half; the whole being to be plowed with three plows; to every plow there was three

\* Feltwell is only twelve miles in a direct line to Ely, but by any horse, or carriage-road, must be as many more, even at this day; we therefore wonder at this obligation of supplying the abbot of Ely with horses and corn at so early a period.

three stone horses, and two oxen; and two horses to harrow the land. In Hickgate, &c. 60 acres of mowing meadows; in the several pastures in Hickgate 40 acres, capable of mowing; in Frithelmes 30 acres. Item, there belongs to the same manor a certain common pasture, which begins at Lingberrywong, and so on by Ellengate, to the bounds between Feltwell and Methwold, in length one league and more, and in breadth a good furlong, where the villages of Methwold, Wilton, and Hockwold, have a right to common, and the other lords of this town, as the bishop and the lords of this town have a right to common in the common pastures of Methwold, Hockwold, and Wilton, horn, underhorn; but no one ought, or can dig, cut heath, &c. but the bishop and his tenants only. There was a marsh called Southfen, common to all the lords, &c. in the town of Feltwell, for feeding, digging, &c. but the towns of Wilton and Hockwold could only inter-common within certain bounds, horn, and underhorn\*. There was also another marsh belonging to this manor, called Northfen, in which the whole town might feed, dig, &c. but the town of Methwold could only feed, unless between Slevesholm and Totesholm, though the jurors say, "that the bailiffs of John earl Warren, and the countess his mother, hindered them from digging between Redlake and Wyffenhoe for seven years last past." The free fishery of the bishop, called Baldbeck, is bounded, which was then held for 40s. per ann. at the lord's will; as was the fishery of Brunslode, which was then held at 8l. per ann. also that of Feltwell-fen farmed at 22l. per ann. There was also a water-mill belonging to this lordship, called Brigg-Mill, which the whole village farmed at 32s. per ann. and a wind-mill. The stock was 20 cows and a free bull, 60 hogs.

\* That is, with the kinds of horned beasts only, whether they were young, and so without, or under horn, or old and so horned.

60 hogs and a free boar, 1000 sheep besides those of the customary tenants, &c. which ought to be in the lord's fold; and the bishop had all waifs found on his fee, or in the highways within the town. Humphry, son of Walter, and his partners, held 360 acres free; the rest of the freeholders, and copyholders, &c. with their rents, services, &c. are particularly specified. The tenants paid tallage, childwite, and a fine on the marriage of their sons and daughters, and could not sell an horse-foal, or an ox of their own breed without the lord's licence, and the lord had the best beast for an heriot; and if there was no beast, then 32d. was paid in lieu of it, and the heir paid relief. The quit-rents were 23s 5d. per ann. 46 hens, and 9 capons, 210 eggs, and the whole sum of the days works 4348, by the small hundred, and every man's day's work, out of harvest, is valued at an half-penny, and in harvest at a penny.

In the 34th of Henry VI. this manor was valued at 36l. 3s. 3d. per ann. but in the reign of Philip and Mary the yearly revenue was but 29l. 10s. gd. ob. Thus it continued in the fee of Ely, till by an act of parliament, in the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign, it was settled by way of exchange on the crown, and was held by lease at the yearly rent of 30l. 1s. till the 7th of James I. who on the 29th of November in the said year granted to Robert Wace, esq. this manor with the appurtenances, and all perquisites of court thereunto belonging, since which time it has passed through several hands, and was possessed by Charles Wren, son of Matthew bishop of Ely, whose daughter and heiress brought it to —— Munson, esq. and it is now owned by Robert Clough, esq. senior, of Feltwell, who has the leet of half the town, as belonging formerly to this manor, when in the hands of the bishops of Ely.

The

The leet of the other part of the town belongs to the hundred.

SOUTH-HALL MANOR. At the general survey we find that the earl Warren had a manor in this town, which Alveva, a Saxon lady, held in the Confessor's time, of St. Adeldred's monastery of Ely. It was valued at 90*s.* per ann. and there was a church belonging to it, which Godric claimed as belonging to the fee of Ralph.

The Cokefields were very early enfeoffed in this lordship by the earl Warren; for in the 5th of king John the bishop of Ely, and Adam de Cokefield, owed to that king two palfreys, to have a market here, on such a day in the week, which should not be to the prejudice of the neighbouring markets; this was held in the reign of Henry III. by Laurence de Hammelden, of the family of the Cokefields. In the 15th of Edward I. Robert de Cokefield claimed to hold a market here, once a week, on Monday, and a fair yearly on the vigil, the day of, and the day after the feast of St. Nicholas. This Robert died in the 25th of Edward I. seised of this manor, without issue, and Joan, his sister, was his heir. This Joan was probably the wife of William de Bello-Campo, or Beauchamp, who in the 7th of Edward II. gave half a mark for licence to agree with William de Wengrave for the manors of Feltwell, with Moulton, and Waldingfield, in Suffolk, all held by Robert de Cokefield, and accordingly in the same year a fine was levied of this manor, and they were all settled on William de Beauchamp.

In the 25th of Edward III. this manor was held by Sir William Beauchamp, of the castle of Acre, by one knight's fee. After this we find it in the hands of Elizabeth

Elizabeth Lutterell, who had a grant of free-warren here, and in Moulton, &c. about the 47th of Edward III. This Elizabeth was the relict of sir Andrew Lutterell, and daughter of Hugh Courtney, earl of Devonshire, and Margaret his wife, daughter of Humphry de Bohun, earl of Hereford; she purchased this manor of sir John de Chevereston. After this it came into the family of the Woodhouses, and was in that family in the 6th year of queen Elizabeth., and continued so till about the year 1730, when it was sold to Mr. Brewster, of Brandon, in Suffolk.

DUNTON'S MANOR. Out of that part of the town which the earl Warren held, besides the manor of South-hall, several other little lordships had their rise, amongst these was the lordship of Dunton, so called from a family of that name. Hugh Dunton purchased lands here of John Godging, in the 52d of Henry III. and in the 11th of Edward I. other lands of Hugh Clive, of Methwold.

In the 18th of Edward III. sir William de Doniton was lord. After this it came to the Mundefords, and about the 20th of queen Elizabeth Francis Mundeford had livery of this manor, and those of Wendling-Abbots, and Spinville, in this town.

On the death of sir Edmund Mundesford, son of the aforesaid Edmund, in 1643, this, and the aforesaid manors of Wendling-Abbots, and Spinville, came to Simon Smith, of Winston, in Norfolk, gent. who married Elizabeth, sister by the whole blood to the said sir Edmund, who died without issue. From Smith it came to the Fleetwoods, and was possessed by Smith Fleetwood, esq. son of Charles Fleetwood, esq. and Frances his wife, probably the daughter of Simon Smith, which Smith Fleetwood was baptised at Feltwell

well on the 29th of July, 1647, and by Mary, daughter of sir John Hartop, bart. had Smith Fleetwood, esq. his eldest son, and Charles Fleetwood; by one of them it was sold to Robert Jacomb, esq.

**SPINVILLE'S MANOR**, so called from a family of that name, was part of the earl Warren's fee. William de Spinville held half a fee of that earl when an aid was granted to Henry III. on the marriage of his sister to the emperor. Afterwards it came to the Mundefords about the end of Edward III. and passed, as has been observed, in the manor of Dunton.

**WENDLING-ABBOT'S MANOR** was also part of the earl Warren's fee, and held by Baldwin de Manners in the reign of Henry III. After this it came to the abbey of Wendling, in Norfolk, and by the inquisitions made in the 20th of Edward III. it appears that the abbot of Wendling, the lord William de la Zouch, and John de Tydd, held half a fee here of the earl Warren, late Baldwin de Manners. In this abbey it continued till the dissolution, when it came to the Mundefords, and has passed, as has been observed, in the manor of Dunton.

In 1428 the temporalities of the abbey in this town were valued at 5l. 13s. 7d. ob. p. a.

**EAST-HALL**, alias **BROOMHILL MANOR**, was also a little lordship belonging to the earl Warren's fee, and held of that earl, soon after the conquest, by the ancient family of De Plays, of Weeting, by the service of half a knight's fee, with a fishery in Feltwell water, held of the castle of Acre. In the 6th of Richard II. sir John Plays made several deeds of feoffment of this manor to William Beauchamp, &c. in order to settle it on the priory of Broomhill; and in the 25th of that king

king there was licence of mortmain granted. In that house it remained till the dissolution, and was then given by Henry VII. to cardinal Woolsey, and on his attainder, reverting to the crown, it was granted to Christ's college, in Cambridge, by way of exchange, and in that college it still continues, being leased out by the society.

Stigand archbishop of Canterbury, who was lord of Methwold, at the conquest had sixty acres of land belonging to that manor, which extended into this town; this after the conquest was seized by the king, and at the survey was kept for him by William de Noiers, but soon after the Conqueror gave it to the earl Warren, and so it became part of his fee.

TYDD'S MANOR, so called from a family of that name, was also a part of the earl Warren's fee, being held in the 20th of Edward III. by John de Tydd, and soon after it came to the Mundefords, and passed in the manor of Dunton.

The Mundefords of Feltwell, were a younger branch of the family of Hockwold.

Besides the manors above-mentioned, Fotheringhay college, in Northamptonshire, had considerable lands here, part of which Edward VI. by letters patent, dated June 8, in his seventh year, granted licence to sir Richard Lee, to alienate a moiety of Redmore, being a moiety of 164 acres, lying in Feltwell, Hilgay, and Southrey, in Norfolk, and Lakenheath, in Suffolk, with the rights of fishery in those towns, and the moiety of all that lode, called Barlode, and the moiety of twenty-five acres of marsh, called Nirlands, to Nicholas Bacon, esq. and in the 38th of

queen Elizabeth sir Robert Wingfield died seised of this moiety.

The other part was held by sir Richard Lee, and conveyed by him in the 1st of queen Mary to sir Ambrose Jermyn, of Rushbrook, in Suffolk; and on December 1, in the 25th of Elizabeth, sir Robert Jermyn had licence to alienate it to Henry Warner, esq. October 16, in the 21st of Charles I. Henry Warner, esq. died possessed, as it is said, of the manor of Redmore, the whole town being then in him.

The monks of Castle Acre also had lands in this village of the gift of Adam de Cokefield, about the reign of Henry III. and this priory was taxed in 1428 for their temporalities here at 29s. 8d.

Here is a fair kept on the 20th of November.

St. Nicholas's church stands at the west end of the town, and is a small pile of flint and pebbles, in length about thirty-six feet, and in breadth, together with the north and south aisles, about forty-eight, and covered with lead.

On the south wall of the nave are letters wrought in stone, in memory of *John Do*, and *Thomas Dey*, benefactors to that work.

The chancel is in length about twenty-seven feet, and seventeen in breadth, and is covered with thatch. Against the end of the nave is a little tower, round at bottom, and octangular at top, in which hang five small bells; this church was repaired, and in a good measure re-edified in 1494. On May 6, in that year, an indulgence was granted for that purpose, which, with

with the bells in the tower, was lately destroyed by a sudden fire.

We learn from the Norwich Doomsday-book, that the rector then had a house and forty acres of land, and that the patronage of the church was in the see of Ely. Here is a house and twelve acres of glebe.

The rector in his answer to king James's queries observes, that there were in 1603 one hundred and fourteen communicants in this parish.

Richard Davenport, rector, was ejected before 1650 by the long parliament, but lived to be restored.

In 1732 the Rev. Mr. James Virtue was presented by the bishop of Ely: his grandson had bequeathed to him by the late Dr. Thurston, M. D. fellow of Gonville and Caius college, legacies, it is said, to the amount of 50,000l.

This rectory is valued at 19l. in the king's books. In 1774 the Rev. Rayner Bellman was presented to this rectory by the bishop of Ely.

St. Mary's church is a regular pile of flint, boulder, &c. consisting of a nave, a north and south aisle, with a chancel covered with lead; the roof of the nave is of oak, and on the principals of it are the effigies of several religious; the roof is supported by pillars formed of four pilasters of stone joined together, making ten handsome arches, five on each side, with as many windows over them. At the west end of the nave stands a large and lofty square tower of free-stone, embattled with four pinnacles; under the

battlements are the arms of Mundeford, and Fincham, founders of that building.

On the pavement, as you ascend the nave, lies a marble grave-stone, and on it a brass plate, thus inscribed,—*Orate pro animabus Osberti Mundeford, filii Ade Mundeford, et Elizabeth consortis sui, qui quidem Osbertus obiit primo die mensis Januarij, anno Dni. MCCCCCLXXIX.*—And on a shield of brass the arms of Mundeford.

On another,—*Orate pro animabus Ade Mundeford, armigeri, et Effeline uxoris ejus, qui quidem Adam obiit sexto die mensis Martij, anno Dni. MCCCCCLXIII. Quorum animabus propitietur Deus, Amen.*

On a third,—*Orate pro animabus Francisci Hethe de Mildenhale, armigeri, et Gracie uxoris, qui quidem Franciscus obiit iv die Janu. anno Dni. MCCCCLXX.*—And on a shield, Hethe, impaling Teye.

At the end of this aisle, on the right hand, against the chancel wall, is a little marble compartment, with the effigies of a man in armour, and this epitaph,—*Hic jacet Franciscus Mundeford, armiger, filius primogenitus Osberti Mundeford, armig. ex Brigetta uxore sua, qui Franciscus obiit sine exitu 1° Januarij, anno Dni. MDXC.*

Near the stone stair-case that leads to the old rood-loft, and on the cross pavement, lies an old grey marble stone, with the portraiture of a woman in brass, counting her beads, and on a plate this,—*Orate pro anima Margarete Mundeford, quondam consortis Francisco Mundeford, armig. que obiit xxvi°. die mensis Maij, anno Dni. MCCCCXX. Cujus anime propitietur Deus, Amen.*

At

At the end of the said nave, on the left hand, against the chancel wall, is a neat marble compartment, ornamented with three small arches, and in them the effigies of Osbert Mundeford, esq. in armour, his helmet before him, and his two wives, all on their knees. Motto, *SOYES, LOYAL ET FOYAL.* Over the effigies of his first wife is the aforesaid quartered shield, impaling quarterly, 1. Townshend, 2. Haywell, 3. Brewse, and 4. Ufford. Over the effigies of his second wife, Mundeford, impaling quarterly, 1. Spelman, 2. Narburgh, 3. Froyk, and 4. Sturgeon. On the body of the monument,—*Hic jacet Osbertus Mundeford, armiger, qui primo duxit Margaretam, filiam Johannis, filij et hæredis Domini Rogeri Towneconde militis, postea Brigettam unam filiarum Domini Johan. Spilman, de Narlurgh, militis, et ex prima uxore exitum habuit unicam filiam, ex secunda, filios Novem. et filias quinque, qui Osbertus obiit 28° die mensis Julij, anno Dni. 1580, ætat. suæ 73.*

In the windows of the nave on the north side are the shields quarterly of Southwell, &c. On the south side de Grey, of Merton, Manning quarterly, and Tey.

On the pavement of the chancel lies a black marble stone,—*In Memory of John Wace, gent. who died Feb. 3, 1672,—with his shield.*

Near this lies another,—*In memory of Catherine Wace, who died April 17, 1679.*

Against the south wall of the altar are three curious stone arches and seats for the bishop, priest, and deacon, and at the head of them an arch for the holy water; in the north wall is a cupboard, once a repository for reliks.

When the earl Warren at the conquest took possession of that lordship which Alveva held, the patronage of this church, which Godric laid claim to, came to him, and was given by him, or one of his descendants, to the abbey of Lewes, in Sussex, and we find from Norwich Doomsday-book, that in the reign of Edward I. it was in the patronage of that abbey, and the rector had a house and forty acres of land.

In 1303, Nov. 21, the rector was presented by the bishop of Norwich, the prior of Lewes being then excommunicated; and John earl Warren had the patronage of all the benefices belonging to the abbey of Lewes granted him by the king, who on account of his wars with France seized the priory aliens (of which this was one) into his own hands.

The feast of the dedication of this church, which was used to be kept annually on April 14, was enjoined by the bishop of Norwich, in 1433, to be kept for the future annually on September 24.

This advowson was granted to Thomas duke of Norfolk on December 22, in the 29th of Henry VIII. Robert prior of Lewes surrendered it to the king in the said year. The rector, John Holland, made a very remarkable lease of this rectory, which was confirmed by the duke, the bishop, and dean and chapter of Norwich, under their hands and seals, October 10, in the 37th of Henry VIII. dated September 26, in the 37th of the said king, to George Holland, secretary to the said duke, for ninety-nine years, from St. Michael next ensuing, the said rector reserving only 12l. per ann. rent, the dwelling in a chamber, firing, and washing of his linen, which lease took accordingly effect, bound his successors, and did not expire till the year 1646. The plea in the preamble is, in consideration

consideration of George Holland's great cost, charges, and expences, which he had been at in the parsonage, and also hereafter intended to be at, about the edifying, building, and repairing of the dwelling and mansion-houſe of the ſaid rectorie; and the aforesaid rector was obliged to ſerve the cure, or cause it to be ſerved, the aforesaid George paying the pension of 5l. 10s. to the duke of Norfolk, due formerly to the priories of Lewes and Castle Acre, and 4d. per ann. rent of affize to Christ's College, in Cambridge, also the tenths, synodals, procurations, and repairing, &c. all the edifices.

In 1603 it was certified to the king, on his queries, that this church was ſerved by a curate, the benefice heretofore preſentive was long ſince leaſed by the in-cumbent, lord bishop and patron, and is ſo holden and ſerved by the ſaid curate, and that there were 120 communicants in this parish.

In 1609, November 25, the king was in poſſeſſion of it, being forfeited on the attainder of the duke of Norfolk, in queen Elizabeth's reign, and has ever ſince remained in the crown.

This rectorie is valued in the king's books at 14l. 17s. 3d. ob. tenths 1l. 9s. 8d. 3q. There is a penſion paid yearly by the rector of 5l. 10s. to the duke of Norfolk, of which 5l. per ann. was paid as a penſion to the prior of Lewes, for his portion of tithes here, and was ſo charged in 1428; the other penſion of 10s. was paid to the prior of Castle Acre for his portion, both which, on the diſſolution, were given to the duke of Norfolk.

Sir Edmund Mundeford gave, and ſettled by deed of feoffment, Sept. 10, 1642, on ſir Thomas Wodehouse,

house, bart. &c. and their heirs and assigns, two several parts of marsh, or fen-ground, in Feltwell; in South-Yen one containing six hundred acres, called Ten-feet-ground; and the other containing two hundred and forty acres, called the Wannage, on this trust and confidence, that from and after his decease, when the said two several parts of marsh, or fen-ground, shall be by means of draining, &c. made worth the sum of three-score pounds per ann. then 20l. of the yearly issues and profits thereof shall be disposed yearly in buying of frize, or some other cloathing, to be distributed unto, and amongst the poorer sort of people inhabiting in Feltwell, which have heretofore been born, or shall be born in Feltwell, and the residue of the yearly profits, viz. 40l. shall be disposed yearly for and towards the maintenance of a free-school in the said town, for the teaching of the children of the inhabitants grammar, and other learning, freely; and if the said lands should become worth more then 60l. per ann. the surplusage shall be retained and kept by the feoffees, till the same shall amount to so much as the said feoffees, or their successors, may purchase therewith some convenient ground in Feltwell, with a convenient house thereupon, or else to build one, for an alms-house for the placing and dwelling of poor, aged, and impotent people therein, inhabiting in Feltwell aforesaid, and then the surplusage above 60l. per ann. shall be yearly bestowed amongst the poor people of the said alms-house.

Mr. Blomfield gives us a list of burials and marriages, and observes, that "the registers in churches were first appointed to be kept in 1538, just upon the dissolution of monasteries, and since that time have proved some of our best helps towards the preserving of history; their use (as a learned bishop observes) might

might be of a further extent, if care was taken to register the most remarkable occurrences relating to the public concerns of the several parishes, such as recoveries of benefactions, properties in seats, or ailes, rights of advowson, &c. But it will be our everlasting reproach, if (instead of thus improving the good designs of our ancestors for the continuance of their names and memories) we omit even that part of our duty which is now enjoined by an ecclesiastical, as well as civil authority, and record matters in church books after such a manner as will only serve to render them monuments of our negligence; for since inquisitions *post mortem* are now taken away by the statute of 12 Car. II. the entries in these books are now become the chief evidences to prove pedigrees, and descent, on which titles to estates do often depend. Therefore it behoves all rectors, vicars, &c. to be careful in this case, and not to commit such books into the hands, and much more to the trust and keeping of illiterate persons, on any account whatever;" to which necessary admonition we very heartily subscribe.

This populous and extensive village is inhabited by about 1000 souls, who are chiefly employed in husbandry and embanking. A very large district of the Bedford South Level belongs to this town,

In 1778 the Rev. Henry Pritchard was presented to the rectory of Feltwell St. Mary by his present majesty, George III.

HOCKWOLD stands at the south-west point of this hundred, close north of the little Ouse, near the great Level of the fens; it belonged, together with Wilton, (to which it now joins, and of which it was then a part) to Alveva, a Saxon lady, in the reign of

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the Confessor; at the survey William earl Warren was lord; in the Confessor's time they were valued at 6l. per ann. at the survey at 10l. and were both one leuca long, and half a one broad, and paid together 17d. of the 20s. gelt. It occurs in the survey by the name of Hocuella; Hoc, or Hoke, signifies a dirty low situation, a vale, sometimes an angle, nook, or corner, and Wella, a place or spring of water; the other name, Hockwold, relates to its scite, in respect of Northwold and Methwold.

Fulk de Beaufo was lord of this town, and Wilton, in the reign of king John, which he held of the earl Warren; this Fulk having no heirs male, these townships were divided amongst his four daughters, one of whom, Agatha, married to sir Robert Aguillon, had also four daughters and co-heirs; 1. Agatha, who married sir Adam de Cokefield; 2. Isabel, married to Luke de Poinings; 3. Margery, to sir Giles Argenton, and after to Jordan to Sackville; and 4. Joan, to Ralph Fitz-Bernard, knt. which still occasioned a further division of the township, as will appear from the following:

**POININGS MANOR.** Sir Robert Aguillon held a lordship in these towns in the 20th of Edward III. when an aid was granted to that king. In the 3d of Edward I. sir Luke de Poinings\*, who married Isabel, daughter and co-heir of sir Robert Aguillon, had a lordship here, and claimed the assize of bread and beer. In the 1st of Edward III. Michael de Poinings settled on Thomas, his son, the advowson of Hockwold, and Wilton; Michael lord Poinings by deed, dated before Calais, July 20, 1347, granted his

\* This Luke had also the share, or part, of Joan, married to Fitz-Bernard.

his crest of a dragon's head between two wings ermine to sir Stephen de Valwynes, knt. about the same time that that lord had a grant from Edward III. of two hundred marks a year, for the better support of the honor of a banneret; which he received of the king.

In the 4th of Richard II. Richard, second son of Michael lord Poinings, was lord; he was one of those noblemen who accompanied John duke of Lancaster into Spain, in the 9th of the said king, and had a protection on that account.

After this it was held by sir Edward Poynings, lord warden of the cinque ports, who presented to the church of Hockwold in 1497, and died on the 20th of October, in the 13th of Henry VIII. Henry earl of Northumberland was then found his cousin and next heir, his grandfather having married Eleanor, daughter and heir of Richard Poynings, eldest son of Robert lord Poynings; which Richard died in 1430, before his father, and the aforesaid earl had livery of it in the 14th of Henry VIII. but in the 21st of that king a fine was levied between Robert Ratcliff, viscount Fitz-Walter, Thomas duke of Norfolk, George lord Hastings, sir Richard Walden, knt. &c, querents, and Henry earl of Northumberland, defendant, of this manor, an act of parliament being before this passed, that all the lands of the earl of Northumberland, for want of heirs of the body of the said earl, should come to the king.

Afterwards it was conveyed by Robert earl of Sussex to Thomas Tindale, esq. son of sir John Tindale, and William Tindale, esq. son and heir of sir Thomas; John Tindale, his brother, sold it to sir William Paston,

Clement

Clement Paston, esq. on the 20th of January, in the 26th of Elizabeth, had this manor of Poinings, with those of Scale's, Mundeford's, and Stewkey's, in Hockwold, and Wilton; and by an inquisition taken September 3, 1613, after the death of sir William Paston, it was found that he had settled the aforesaid manors, several marshes in Feltwell, &c. by deed, dated September 30, in the 44th of Elizabeth, on Bridget Heveningham, wife of sir John Heveningham, his grand-daughter, after his own decease, and her issue in tail male. William Heveningham, esq. son of sir John, was lord in 1631, and presented that year to the church of Hockwold. This William was one of the regicides of Charles I. and being attainted in 1660, this, with the manors abovementioned, came to the crown; and on September 28, 1661, were granted to Bryan viscount Cullen, sir Ralph Banks, sir Thomas Fanshaw, knight of the bath, Edward Pitts, and Charles Cornwallis, esq. and by them were sold to sir John Crofts, bart. of Westow, in Suffolk, and after his death, and that of his lady, were conveyed by her executor, Edward Proger, esq. groom of the king's bed-chamber, to sir Cyril Wyche, on the payment of 12,000l. Sir Cyril was secretary of state in Ireland in the reign of William III, and was the son of sir Peter Wyche, of London, and Isabel, his wife, daughter of sir Robert Bolls, of Lincolnshire, which sir Peter was ambassador in Turkey, comptroller of the king's household, and one of his privy council. Sir Cyril dying on the 28th of December, 1707, left this lordship, &c. to his son, Jermyn Wyche, esq. and it is now enjoyed by his son, Cyril Wyche, esq. who has a good agreeable seat, with gardens, &c. near the church of Hockwold, built by William Heveningham, esq. but much improved by the present owner.

SCALES'S MANOR. Robert de Scales by his marriage with Margery, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Fulk de Beaufoe, had a part and lordship in this town, and in the reign of Henry III. held three quarters of a fee in Hockwold and Wilton. In the reign of Henry VI. Robert lord Scales held the same. After this it was held by Anthony Woodvile, lord Scales, and Elizabeth, his wife, daughter and co-heir of the lord Scales; on the death of the said Elizabeth, without issue, it descended to William Tindale, who was knighted at the creation of Arthur prince of Wales, and declared heir of the kingdom of Bohemia, in right of Margaret, his great-grandmother, daughter of the duke of Theise, and niece to the king of Bohemia, the wife of sir Simon Felbrigg, whose daughter and heiress, Alana, was married to sir William Tindale, of Dean, in Northamptonshire, and Redenhall, in Norfolk, &c. grandfather of the aforesaid sir William Tindale, of Hockwold, who kept his first court here in the 6th of Edward IV. This sir William died February 22, in the 12th of Henry VII. and John was his son and heir, who was created knight of the bath at the coronation of queen Ann Boleyn, and married Amphelia, daughter of sir Humphry Conningby, one of the justices of the common pleas; he was succeeded by his son, sir Thomas Tindale, who on December 14, in the 26th of Henry VIII. settled this lordship for the payment of 42l. per ann. by way of jointure, on dame Winifred, his second wife, and William Tindale, esq. son and heir of sir Thomas, with his brother, John, sold it (as has been before observed in the manner of Poinings, to sir William Paston) and so it came, as above, to Cyril Wyche, esq. the present lord,

MUNDEFORD's MANOR. In the 56th of Henry III. Adam de Mundeford had lands here, and in Wilton, and Mundeford.

In the reign of Edward I. John Mundeford held in Hockwold, and Wilton, three quarters of a fee of the earl Warren, which was given him by Thomas de Ingalesthorpe, who married Joan, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Fulk de Beaufoe, the aforesaid John having married Sibill, daughter of the said Thomas.

In this family the manor remained some time; they had a house here, and several of them were buried in the church of Hockwold, and gave considerable donations to the several parishes they had an interest in.

Osbert, his son and heir, succeeded, and by his will dated at Hockwold, October 4, 1456, and proved the 20th of December following, he bequeaths his body to be buried in the church of Hockwold St. Peter's, before the chancel door, and gives to the churches of Hockwold, Wilton, Mundeford, East-Lexham, Norton, by Fakenham, in Norfolk, and Barrow, in Suffolk, 6s. 8d. a-piece, and seven marks to be distributed among the poor of Hockwold, Wilton, Mundeford, Feltwell, Methwold, Northwold, Crane-wyz, and Weeting, for a feast at his burial; to the guild, or fraternity of Hockwold St. Peter, 6s. 8d. to that of St. Mary of Weeting, 6s. 8d. and the said sum to St. Margaret's of Norton. To Margaret his wife, a chamber in his house at Hockwold, for her and her maid, and 12 marks yearly; also meat, drink, wood, and candle, out of the issues of his manors in the said towns, and the moiety of his household goods for life; the remainder to Osbert his son, and Elizabeth his daughter; to Elizabeth, daughter of Osbert his son,  
20 sheep

20 sheep; to Esselina, wife of Adam, his brother, 20 sheep; to Adam, his brother, 48l. per ann. out of his manor of Barrow, in Suffolk.

The last was Osbert de Mundeford, and he dying without issue male, left only a daughter and heiress, who being married to sir William Tindale, knight of the bath, (who died in the 12th of Henry VII.) brought this lordship into the family; from which it passed, as is before shewn, to the present lord, Cyril Wyche, esq.

The Mundefords were of an ancient and noble extraction, descended (as it is said) from Hugh de Montfort, one of the commanders of the army of duke William (afterwards king of England) against Henry king of France in 1054.

In the 19th of Richard II. John de Mundeford was lord of Felmingham, in right of Joan his wife, relict of Roger Roys, esq. and was one of those gentlemen of ancient coat armour who were appointed as part of the 20 lances out of this county, sent to Henry V. into France.—*Ragman's Bag, in the exchequer.*

CARLE'S MANOR. In the reign of Henry III. John Carle, and John de Hockwold, held one quarter of a fee of Adam de Cokefield, and Andrew de Sackville, which came to them by Agatha and Margery, two of the daughters and coheirs of Aguillon. In the 9th of Edward II. John de Hockwold was returned as lord; but in the 20th of Edward III. Roger Poteys, and Richard Horn, held here, and in Wilton, one quarter of a fee, which was John Carle's, and John de Hockwold's. After this, in the 34th of Henry VIII. Edmund Prat had it, and died lord; and in 1650 Osbert Prat. After this it was sold to the mas-

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ter and fellows of Caius college, in Cambridge, and is now held by Cyril Wyche, esq. by lease from that society.

**COKEFIELD'S, alias ELLINGHAM'S, OR ALLEN'S MANOR.** In the reign of Henry III. Adam de Cokefield, and Andrew de Sackville, held three quarters of a fee in Hockwold, and Wilton, of the earl Warren, and the earl of the king.

In the 9th of Edward II. John de Cokefield, by deed, dated on Wednesday before the feast of St. Barnaby, in the 10th of the said king, granted to William Bateman, citizen of Norwich, this manor in Wilton and Hockwold, with the advowson of the church of Hockwold. In the 29th of Henry III. Roger Poteys was lord.

In the 3d of Richard II. John Wright, of Hockwold, and Sibill his wife, daughter of Agnes Poteys, and Joan, daughter of Catherine Poteys, sister of the said Agnes, granted to Osbert Mundeford this manor, which John de Ellingham, and Emma his wife, held for her life, on the death of John Poteys their cousin. In 1453 John Alleyn died lord. In the 10th of Elizabeth it was held by Thomas Watts. In the 21st of James I. Francis Baxter, of Stanford-Rivers, in Essex, was lord, who in 1631 conveyed it to Thomas Heyward, gent. for 2400l. and Heyward, in the same year, conveyed part of it to Richard Tyrrell, gent. and part to William Rolph, and it is now possessed by Cyril Wyche, esq.

**STEWKEY, OR STIFKEY'S MANOR.** Thomas de Ingalesthorp, by deed, dated August 20, in the 8th of Edward II. gave to John de Mundeford his manor of Stewkey, in Wilton, and Hockwold, being the fourth part

part of the said townships, with the advowson of the church of Hockwold. This was held in the same family till Mary, daughter and heir of Osbert de Mundeford, brought it to sir William Tindale, from whom it passed to Paston, Heveningham, &c. and is now enjoyed by Cyril Wyche, esq.

The temporalities of the abbess of Elstowe were valued at 15*s.*

The prioress and nuns of Thetford had a moor here, and a fishery, which, on the dissolution, came to John Eyre, esq. who sold it in the 38th of Henry VIII. to Thomas Tindale, esq. and so it became annexed to the lordship of this town.

There is a little peddling fair kept here on St. James's day, July 25, which is the remains of the wake, or dedication-day of Wilton church, which is dedicated to that Apostle, as is before observed, but it is commonly called Hockwold-fair.

The church of Hockwold is dedicated to St. Peter, and has a south aisle annexed to the nave, or body, which is in length about 47 feet, and in breadth, with the nave, about 36 feet, built of flint and boulder. On the pavement lie several marble grave-stones, in memory of the Mundefords, but the brass plates are all reaved. At the west end stands a four-square tower of flint, &c. adorned with quoins of free-stone, in which hang three bells.

In a north window of the nave are two shields, one of Fincham.

The chancel is of the same materials with the church, but covered with reed, and is in length

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about

about 37 feet, and in breadth about 23. At the upper end of the south wall are three neat arches of stone, worked in the wall, making three seats, or stalls, for bishop, priest, and deacon; and at the head of these seats is another arch for holy water. On the summit of these arches are several shields, now daubed over with whiting. Against the east wall of the chancel is a large marble compartment, with the busts of a man and a woman in alabaster, and ornamented with several instruments of music, with two angels, one on each side of the monument, and two pillars of the Corinthian order. On the top is the shield of Wyche. One of the angels bears in his hand a music-book, the other a shield, viz. Hungerford, and this inscription,—*Maria Hungerford, Johannis Hungerford, armiger: ex eadem secum antiqua stirpe oriundi, vidua, omnibus virtutibus ornata, munificentia in pauperes ornatissima, piam efflavit animam, 21 die Augusti, 1719.*

*Jermyn Wyche, armiger, Cyrilli Wyche militis filius qui uxorem, duxit Mariam Hungerford, unicum Mariae et Johanni: filiam, virtutum et rei ex aequo Hæredem, de qua tres qui supersunt, suscepit liberos, vir sciens, prudensq; legum vindicta acerrimus, obiit 7 Janu. 1719. Hoc marmor pietatis et amoris, ergo posuit Maria Wych e filia et uxor.*

Against the end of the north wall is a little compartment, inscribed—*To William Smyth, rector of this parish of Hockwold, who died December 28, 1665, aged 64 years. And of Maritha his wife, who died in March, 1668, aged 52.*

Against the north wall of the chancel are these funeral achievements; Heveningham impaling—, and Wyche impaling Norris.

On

On the area of the chancel lies a black marble stone, in memory of colonel Arthur Heveningham, second brother of William Heveningham, of Heveningham, in Suffolk, esq. who died February 20, 1657.

Also a grey marble, with the effigy of a woman in brass; by her side, on a brass plate, nine children are pourtrayed, and, on a plate below, part of the epitaph is remaining, viz.

*Quisquis eris qui transieris sta perlege, plora,  
Sum quod eris, fueramq; quod es, pro me precor, ora.*

*Ovitus Amfelicie Tendall decimo octavo die mensis Januar.  
an. Dni millesimo cccccxxxii.*°

Adjoining to this is a gravestone, in memory of William Lyng, senior fellow of Caius college, Cambridge, and rector of this parish, who died January 13, 1679, ætat. suæ 54, and his arms.

On a north window of the chancel, —— *Orate pro  
animabus Johannis Bun ----- anno Domini  
MCCCCXV.*

In the 28th of Edward I. the king recovered the presentation against Edmund de Cokefield, the heir of Andrew de Sackville, being under age, and in ward to the king; and in the 7th of Edward III. the king recovered against Margaret, widow of Michael de Poinings, by *quare impedit*, in the right of Robert de Scales, under age, and in ward to the king.

In 1349 sir Robert Scales, knt. and Osbert de Mundeford, released their right in the patronage to sir Michael de Poinings, in which family it long remained.

Norwich Doomsday-book tells us, that sir Luke de Poinings had two turns, sir Adam de Cokefield the third, and sir Reginald de Argentein the fourth; and that there was a house and 40 acres of land, &c.

In 1663 all the four portions, or turns, were consolidated; and August, 16, 1744, the same were consolidated with Wilton.

In the rector's answer to the king's queries in 1603, he says there were 173 communicants in this parish.

This rectory is valued at 9l. 19s. 11d. ob. in the king's books, and pays first fruits 8l. 14s. 4d. 3q. Tenthos 19s. 4d. 3q.

In 1746 the Rev. William Adamson was presented to the rectory of Hockwold, *cum* Wilton, by Gonville and Caius college, Cambridge.

The two villages of Hockwold and Wilton form a street of one mile in length, and is well inhabited: Divine service is done at each church alternately.

WILTON. Two miles west of Weeting, and on the north side of the little Ouse, stands this village, which derives its name from its scite, a town of water, or springs. As it always had the same lords with Hockwold, from the Confessor's time to the present, we have treated of the temporal state of it in that place, it being now called Hockwold-Wilton, though in old writings more properly Wilton-Hockwold, this being the head town of the two. Doomsday-book, fol. 49, tells us, that the king had three borderers in Wella (which we take to be Hocuuella) belonging to his manor of Methwold.

The

The church of Wilton is dedicated to St. James; it has only a nave, or body, with a chancel built of flint and boulder, and covered with reed; the nave is in length about fifty-seven feet, and thirty in breadth.

At the upper end of the nave, near the reading desk, lies a marble stone, with a brass plate thus inscribed:—*Orate pro anima Johannis Buckton, qui obiit v°. die Febr. A°. Dni. M°ccccxi. et pro anima Jo-hanne uxoris ejus quorum animabus propicietur Deus.*

At the west end of the nave stands a strong four-square tower of flint, &c. with quoins and battlements of free-stone, in which hang five bells, and on that is an octangular spire of free-stone. The chancel is about thirty-eight feet in length, and twenty-two in breadth.

Against the south wall is a compartment of stone, and on the summit, Colborne impaling Tyrrell; and under it an epitaph.—*To Mary, the wife of Edward Colborne, some time of Bramford, in the county of Suffolk, gent. eldest daughter of Robert Tyrrell, of Wilton, in the county of Norfolk, esq. She died November 30, 1683, aged 44.*

On the north side is a curious worked arch in the wall, and below an old grave-stone without any arms, or inscription.

On the pannels of the wainscot partition behind the altar are shields of the arms of the lords Scales, Poinings, Arundel, earl Warren, and lord St. George; and several religious subjects.

The prior of Lewes was taxed for his spiritualities, or portion here, in 1428, at 50s. the prior of Flitcham for his temporalities 6s. 8d. and the prior of Bernwell for his marsh 3s.

When Norwich Doomsday-book was composed this was a rectory, the rector had a house and forty acres of glebe land, and the prior and convent of Lewes, in Sussex, had the patronage given them by one of the earls Warren, who founded the priory.

In 1299, October 15, the prior of Lewes presented; and in 1338, March 16, John earl Warren, the advowsons of all the benefices belonging to the priory of Lewes being given to that earl by the king, who assumed at this time the priory aliens, on his wars with France, into his own hands, and Lewes was one of them.

The patronage of the rectory, with the glebes, pensions, &c. was bought by the master and fellows of Gonville-Hall, in Cambridge, of Hugh de Chintriaco, prior, &c. of Lewes, and sir Edmund Hengrave, with the licence of Richard earl of Arundel, lord of the fee, and the rectory was about the year 1350 appropriated by the bishop of Norwich to that college. At this present time it belongs to the said college, and is said to consist of one acre and two rods of hempland, and two common parts, containing fifty acres, besides one hundred and twenty acres of arable land, with the tithe corn, &c.

In 1386, August 22, the vicar was presented by the master and fellows of Gonville-Hall, as were the succeeding vicars.

February 8, 1525, mention is made of the chapel of our Lady in the church of St. James, of Wilton.

In the vicar's answer to king James's queries in 1603, he says there were one hundred and sixty communicants.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 6l. 7s. 6d. and was discharged of first fruits, as appears from the answer of the clergy in 1603; the tenths were 12s. 9d. and of these it was discharged by queen Anne, being in clear value 41l. per ann.

In 1744, August 14, this church was consolidated with Hockwold; and in 1746 the Rev. William Adamson was presented by Gonvile and Caius college, Cambridge, p. j.

ICKBURGH, or ICKBOROUGH. This village lies east of Colveston, on the north side of the river Wissey, the London road to Swaffham, Walsingham, &c. running through it: Dr. Gale, in his Commentary on Antoninus, makes this a Roman Station, (the Iciani); and of the same opinion was the learned Mr. Talbot; though a modern author places the Iciani at Colchester, and even the Villa Faustini at Malden, in Essex; but most authors dissent from him. It is certain that the distance betwixt this town, and that of Bury, (generally agreed to be the Villa Faustini) as observed by Antoninus, exactly answers, take which route you please, either through Brandon or Thetford, and that the road here leading to Swaffham, &c. is broad, direct, and level, and has an air of antiquity and grandeur which appears to every traveller; and in the plantations at Lynford, within a mile of Ickburgh, and at the building of the new hall there, several Roman urns have been lately dug up;

and on the road towards Bury was a large *milliare* lately to be seen, which might be the *primus ab urbe lapis*, the distance answering. Sir Henry Spelman observes, that the Iceni, by which name this part of the heptarchy was distinguished in the time of the Saxons, and on which the Roman Iciani is founded, is a British term, derived from the river Ise, or Ichen, and indeed this is a conjecture highly probable, most of the rivers in Norfolk still retaining (though varying a little) the same name. The great river which flows between this county and Cambridgeshire, and empties itself into the sea about Lynn, is called the Ouse Magna. That river which divides the southwest part of this county from Suffolk, has the name of the Ouse Parva; and that river which is in a good measure the boundary of the hundred of Grimshoe, from those of Clackclose and South Greenhoe, is called the Wissey, which comes very near to the British word Ise before mentioned; and on the north side of this Ise, or Wissey, stands the town of Icheburc, as it is wrote in Doomsday book, that is a town, or burgh, on the Ise, or Icheburna, (as it is also wrote) which is the bourn, brook, or river Ise.

At the time of the survey, in the reign of William the Conqueror, Walter Giffard held the greatest part of this town, which four free-men held in the time of the Confessor, valued then at 20s. and at the survey at 30s. per ann. This part was half a leuca in length, and half a one in breadth, and paid 8d. of the 20s. gelt,

He also held here, and in Lynford, what fourteen free-men held in the time of the Confessor, valued then at 20s. at the survey at 10s. per ann. These free-men were under the protection of the ancestor of Ralph de Waer, and were afterwards delivered to

Bodin de Ver, who took part with the king, but afterwards Ralph attached them to his own fee, and when he forfeited he was their lord, and Hervey de Ver held them of him, as the hundred says.

Walter Giffard was the son of Osborn de Bolebec; he was made earl of Bucks on the conquest, and had many lordships given him. After the death of this earl, and his son, this lordship descended to Richard Fitz-Gilbert, earl of Brion, &c. in Normandy, who married Rohefia, daughter of this Walter Giffard, and had by her Gilbert Fitz-Richard, the first earl of Clare, lord of this town, and the greatest part of it was held of these lords by the ancient family of Langetot, from which family Stow-Langtot, in Suffolk, derives its name; and in the 1st of king John Gilbert de Langetot bought of William de Bellemont the service of two knights fees, &c. in Ickburgh, Brinton, Witchingham, Shottisham, Saxlingham, &c. In this family this lordship continued till the 2d of Richard II. when Nicholas de Langetot, of Mundeford, released by deed to John Churchman all his right in the manor and advowson; and in 1385 he presented to the church; this John was citizen and sheriff of London. In the 1st of Henry IV. he conveyed it to James Billingford, clerk of the crown, who held it of the honor of Clare.

In 1416 John Bungey, clerk, Thomas Fekys, of Colveston, and Simon Couperc, presented to the church by right of the manor of Ickburgh.

In 1448 Richard Geggh, esq. as lord, presented to the church; and Hugh Fenn in 1454, &c. but in 1478 George Neville, lord Abergavenny, held it and presented;

presented; and in the 19th of Henry VII. Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester.

In 2518 Sir Edward Benstede was lord, and presented; and in the 18th of Henry VIII. William Purdee, of Hertingsford Bury, in Hertfordshire, and the lady Jocosa, his wife, late wife of sir Edward Benstede, conveyed the manor by fine to John Crofts, of Westlow, in Suffolk; after this it came to the family of the Bedingfields, of Oxburgh. About the end of the reign of Charles I. it was sold by sir Henry Bedingfield to the Garrards, of Langford; and in 1680 sir Thomas Garrard, bart. presented to the church; his son, sir Nicholas, dying in 1727, without issue, the manor is at present held by sir Francis Bickley, bart. who married Alathea, eldest daughter of Jacob Garrard, esq. eldest son of sir Thomas Garrard, bart. who died before his father, by which Alathea there is no issue. Charles Downing, esq. third son of sir George Downing, of Cambridgeshire, who married Sarah, the second daughter, has by her a son and heir.

CHEVERE'S MANOR. Part of this town (a moiety only of that land which was held here, and in Lynford, by fourteen free-men) was held in the reign of Henry III. by sir Hamon Chevere, kn. who in the 14th of that king conveyed it to Drogo de Barentine; and in the said year he had a grant of weekly market, and a fair yearly, Aug. 10, with free-warren in all his demesne lands here; this was held by William de Barentine, son of the said Drogo, who founded the chapel and hospital of Lepers, in this town, and gave considerable lands, and part of his lordship to it. The remaining part was afterwards held by John de Cressingham; but in the 10th of the said king John Veyle, and Thomas Veyle, of Bodney, nephews and

and heirs of John Cressingham, released to John Churchman their right in this manor; and in that year Richard Holditch did the same. In the 12th of the said king Richard Mey, of Ickburgh, released to the aforesaid John all his right in the manor, &c. so that Churchman, being possessed of the whole, joined it to his other manor, and conveyed it, thus united, to James Billingford; since that time it hath been united, and hath the same lords.

Besides the manors before mentioned Ralph de Tony held thirty acres of land here at the survey, valued with his manor of Necton, which extended into this town, and this part was held in the time of the Confessor by a socman of Harold, but was soon after annexed to the other manors, as we meet with no further account of it.

The monks of Castle Acre had lands, &c. in this town given by Henry de Stanford. In the beginning of the reign of Henry III. Hugh, prior and convent of Lewes, granted them a tenement, held at the yearly rent of 11d. and sir Hamon Chevere, knt. acknowledges to have received of the prior of Castle Acre, &c. the said tenement, paying the yearly rent of 12s. 1d. for that and 112 acres of land. The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The church is an old single building of flint and pebbles, covered with reed, and first dedicated to St. Bartholomew, then to St. Peter, in length about forty-four feet, and eighteen in breadth; at the west end is a square tower of the aforesaid materials, with quoins and battlements of free-stone, in which hang three bells.

On

On the cornice of the screen that divides the church from the chancel, over which stood the old rood loft, are several shields painted, but through length of time mostly defaced and obscure, viz. Langton; Filioit; lord Tey; earl of Arundel; earl Warren; Mortimer earl of March; Bohun earl of Essex; France and England quarterly, with a label, Plantagenet; three ostriches feathers arg. prince of Wales.

Edward the Black Prince used sometimes one feather, sometimes three in his arms, in token (as it is said) of his speedy execution in all his services, as the posts in the Roman state wore feathers to signify their flying post-haste; but the truth is, that prince won these arms at the battle of Cressy, from John king of Bohemia, whom he there slew, and adjoined this old English motto, *Ich Dien, (I serve)*; according to the apostle, *The heir, while he is a child, differeth nothing from the servant.*

On the right hand are the arms of France and England quarterly; Brotherton earl of Norfolk; Beauchamp earl of Warwick; Vere earl of Oxford; Tey; lord Scales; Stapleton, &c. Besides these shields, here were formerly in this church the arms of Churchman, Billingford, and Clifton.

The chancel is in length about twenty-six feet, and eighteen in breadth; in the east window is the figure of St. Catherine; and in a window on the north side that of the Virgin. On the pavement lie several marble grave-stones, some ridged, and with crosses floral cut on them, in memory of some ancient rectors.

In the rector's answer to king James's queries, in 1603, he observes that there were fifty-five communicants.

Thomas

Thomas Rieseing, A. M. rector here, was ejected in the time of the Usurpation, and lost a temporal estate of 50l. per ann.

This rectory was valued in the king's books at 5l. 6s. 1od. ob. it was consolidated to Langford about 1676; the clear value of both being 43l. 6s. 8d. it is discharged of tenths and first fruits.

In 1758 the Rev. Thomas Batman was presented to this rectory, with Langford.

The HERMITAGE, or HOUSE of LEPERS, at ICKBURGH, stood in the south part of the town, a little distance from, and on the north side of the river Wifsey. In old writings it is frequently called, *The House of Lepers, at the New-Bridge, in Ickburgh*, that bridge, which is nearest to the said hermitage, being in respect to the other, (which is over the Wifsey) a new one, and erected, most likely, by the founder of this house, for the safety of travellers on great floods, yet (as it is probable) on a certain toll, or duty, payable to the house, a chain going cross the said bridge at this day, and the key belonging to it being kept at the said place. It is most likely that the said bridge was also formerly maintained by the hermit, or custos of this house.

That the run, or water-course, over which the bridge is erected, was to be cleared by him, appears from an old roll that we have seen, when at a leet kept in the begining of the reign of Henry VII. John Canon, chaplain of St. Laurence, in Ickburgh, was fined 12d. for *not* drawing and scouring the water-course on the south side of the chapel. It was founded by William Barentine in the reign of Edward I. who granted certain lands, &c. here to celebrate

brate mass in the chapel of St. Mary of Newbridge. In the 17th of Edward II. there was an hospital of lepers here. And that there was an hermit, master, or chaplain, and brethren, in the reign of king Henry IV. appears from a bull of pope Gregory XII. granted to this house. By this bull, dated 7 id. March, in the 3d year of his pontificate, they and all their lands were freed from the payment of tithes, and all secular services.

This hospital was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Laurence, the chapel is built of flint and boulder, about 30 feet in length, and 20 in breadth, and is now converted into a farm-house, having an additional building at the west end.

It was also endowed by the founder with the rights and privileges of a fair, held here on St. Laurence's day, August 10. John de la Rokele, who had the patronage, was a considerable benefactor, and gave to this house in the reign of Edward III. 59 acres, and 2 rods of land, 12d. 1q. rent, and the liberty of a fold-course here. From Rokele the patronage came, by marriage, to Edmund de Ingalefthorpe, and John de Ingalefthorpe conveyed it, October 20, in the 27th of Henry VI. to sir Thomas Tuddenham, kn. of Oxburgh. From sir Thomas it came, by the marriage of Margaret, his sister and heir, to Edmund Bedingfield, esq. and in the 21st of Edward IV. Edmund Bedingfield, esq. afterwards knight of the bath, and grandson to the aforesaid Edmund, presented William Dane to be hermit and chaplain here, who was to pray for the said Edmund, and all the patrons of the house, and in this family it continued till the dissolution.

On

On the 10th of August, in the 2d of Edward VI; Osbert Mundesford, of Feltwell, and Thomas Gawdy, of Shottesham, in Norfolk, for 900l. had the grant of all this chantry, or chapel, called Newbridge, with the appurtenances; afterwards it was held by sir Henry Bedingfield, who conveyed it in the 1st of queen Mary to Robert Bate, of Hoxne, in Suffolk; and Gabriel Bate, his son, conveyed it to Robert Astley, he to John Wormeley, in the 24th of Elizabeth, and in 1606 Wormeley Martin, and John Martin, conveyed it to George Eades, and by Frances, daughter and heir of Edmund Eades, it came to Henry North, esq. who sold it to Samuel Vincent, esq. in 1682. From Vincent it came to Robert Partridge, esq. of Buckenham-house, and so to Henry Partridge, esq. his brother, whose son Henry lately conveyed it to Mr. Henry Cocksedge, of Theiford, the present owner.

It is to be observed, that hermitages were erected for the most part near great bridges, and high roads, as appears from this, and those at Brandon, Downham; Stow-Bardolph, in Norfolk, and Erith, in the isle of Ely, &c. but how such incites and stations can answer the pretended design or intention will be difficult to be accounted for. They were also sometimes erected in church-yards, in towns of considerable note, as may be seen from the petition of the mayor of Sudbury, in Suffolk, to the bishop of Norwich, which being not foreign to our present purpose, we shall here adjoin.

" To youre ryght reverent lordshepe and faderhod in God. We John Hunt, meyr, of the tonn of Sudbury, Henry Roberds, John Tournour, &c. parishyens to the cherche of Saynt Gregory, of the same tonn, in humble wyze comand us, as it befalleth us to your worshewfull

worshesfull estates to do. And forasmuche as we  
been informed that on Richard Appelby, of Sudbery,  
conversaunt with John Levynton, of the same tonn,  
hermyte, wheche Richard is a man as to oure consci-  
ence knownen, a trewe member of Holy-Cherche, and  
a gode gostly levere, &c. hath besbught unto your  
lordshepe to be admitted into the ordre of an hermyte,  
and ye by youre gracious and special councell, would  
not admit him lesse yanne he wer seyker to be inhab-  
ited in a solitary place, wher virtues might increase  
and vice to be exiled. We confederyng youre sayd  
paternell ordynaunce, and hys holy desyr sadly set, as  
we truste to God it shall, and in hym better and bet-  
ter be founde, have graunted hym be the aſent of all  
the sayd paryſh and cherch-reves, to be inhabited  
wyth ye sayd John Levynton, in his folytary place  
and hermytage, which yat is made at the cost of the  
paryſh, in the cherch-yard of Seynt Gregory cherch,  
to dwellyn togodyr as yey leven or whiche of them  
longest leveth, wherefore our ryght reverent lord and  
fader in God, we entewrly beſeke your gracious be-  
nyngnyte to admite hym into that ordre, there to  
abide your bedeman, the lords of the tonn and the  
pariſhyens, as we doe trusſe to God he will be perſe-  
varint, wheche God graunte him grace to. Moreover,  
rygt reverent lord and fader in God, forasmuche as we  
will yat yis oure leter and graunt to be not annulled,  
but be us confimed, we have in wytness put to oure  
ſeales, goven and graunted at Sudbery, the xxviii day  
of Janyver, in the yere of lord, M.cccc. xxxiiii."

A late author gives a melancholy account of the modern hermits, " who, (he says) follow no other rule than that which is dictated to them by libertinism, and may be compared to the Sarabaites, &c. who, (as Jerom says) professed indeed a religious life

in

in outward appearance, but really lived together in a sad manner, after their own humour."

LYNFORD, or LINFORD, lies between Mundford and Buckenham Parva, and may derive its name from the British word *hlyn, palus*, and so signifies a senny or miry ford, or, as some will have it, a spreading water; and in both these respects the passage over the river here, to Ickburgh, will very well answer, the ground near the water being boggy, and a mere fen, two rivers uniting a little above the town. It may also derive its name from *llwyn*, which signifies in the aforesaid language a city, or large town, and so may have respect to the *Iciani* of the Romans, which it seems also to have had some relation to, if not to have been part of it, having the same lords and owners at, and before the conquest; and as we have observed before, at the building of Mr. Neltkorpe's house here (in 1720) two Roman urns were dug up, and in 1735 his gardener digging in the plantation, about a furlong west of the house, fell on a pavement of flint-stones, under which he found a small Roman urn, in which were pieces of bones and ashes.

At the Conqueror's survey the town was held by two lords, Walter Giffard, and Roger Bigot, but the greatest part of it belonged to Walter, who was earl of Bucks. In Ickburgh, and here, he had lands, which 14 freemen held in the time of the Confessor. Giffard's part came by marriage to the earls of Clare, and was held of them, being divided into two moieties or lordships. One moiety was held by a family that assumed their name from the town, for in the 4th of king John Thomas de Lynford was lord; but in the 34th of that king it was in the family of Cressingham.

After this sir John Clifton, knt. of Buckenham-castle, was lord, who, by his will dated in 1447, ordered John Briggs, of Quiddenham, to have an annuity out of it, and that he should have the refusal, if he would buy it, which he did, and by his will, dated in 1454, devised it to be sold to the prior and convent of St Mary in Thetford, for eight score marks, and by virtue of a licence granted by Henry VI. the said prior and convent purchased of John duke of Norfolk, sir Thomas Tuddenham, knt. Thomas Weleys, and William Briggs, the manor, advowson, &c. The prior became lord of the whole town, and held it till the dissolution of his house, and then Henry VIII. in his 32d year, granted the whole to Thomas duke of Norfolk, who being attainted in the 38th of the said king, it reverted to the crown, and Edward VI. on February 20, in his 3d year, granted it to Richard Fulmerston, and it came by the marriage of his daughter to sir Edward Clere, who was lord; and on July 1, in the 23d of Elizabeth, the reversion of it was granted by that queen to Philip earl of Arundel, a descendant of the aforesaid duke of Norfolk, by whom it was sold to Francis Mundeford, esq. of Feltwell, and in 1603 was enjoyed by sir Edward Mundeford, who then had his residence here, and his son, sir Edward, dying without issue, in 1643, it was afterwards sold by his sisters and co-heiresses to Mr. Turner, attorney at law, whose son, sir Charles Turner, conveyed it about 1717 to James Nelthorpe, esq. who built a very agreeable seat, with pleasant gardens, plantations, canals, &c. a little distance from the old hall, now the farm-house, and the only house in this place, besides the new hall. James Nelthorpe, esq. his grandson, is the present lord.

In the reign of Henry III. William Baldwin held here a quarter of a fee, of Jordan Foliot, he of the  
earl

earl of Gloucester, and the earl of the king, and this was the other moiety of Giffard's manor.

In the 3d of Henry IV. Richard Gegghe, and his parcers, held of John de Camois one quarter of a fee, and he of the earl of Clare, formerly William Baldwin's; but in the reign of Henry VI. it was conveyed, with the other moiety, to the prior and convent of Thetford. Here was also at the survey a little lordship held by Roger Bigot, which Alstan, a Saxon, was lord of, in the confessor's time, valued at 20d. and Stanart held it of Bigot. It was united in the reign of Henry VI. to the other manors, and with them conveyed to the priory of Thetford.

The abbot of Conchis, in France, was taxed for his temporalities here, in 1428, at 6s. and the abbot of Bury, for his, at 1d.

The church of Lynford has been demolished a long time, it stood in the south-west part of the court-yard, leading to the new hall; its scite is inclosed, and planted with Scotch firs, where may be observed several of the foundation-stones, and here several human bones were dug up.

The patronage appears to be separated so early from the manor as in the 44th of Edward II. and in the 45th of that king Thomas de Heygham, &c. released to the lady Elizabeth Aspale all their right in the advowson, lands, &c.

The patronage of this church was in the family of Holditch from 1402 to 1446.

In 1455 the manor and advowson being sold to the prior and convent of St Mary of Thetford, they obtained

tained in 1467, of the bishop of Norwich, an appropriation of the church, and on this appropriation a pension of 3s. 4d. was to be paid yearly to the see of Norwich, from the monastery; and the church was served by a stipendiary curate till the dissolution, and then coming into lay hands, the lord of the manor, as impropriator, was obliged to find a curate to supply it, though in the year 1598, on the 3d of August, we find by the institution books, that Thomas Jackler, A. M. was instituted on the presentation of sir Edward Clere, on the death (as it is said) of the last rector, but this is the only institution we have met with, since that of Thomas Holditch, esq. of Wiggenhall, in 1446. At present, the church being down, we do not find that there is any curate, or any allowance made to any person, the impropriator, as rector, making it a sine-cure.

It is not at present accounted for in the bishop's register.

METHWOLD lies north of Feltwell, and on the west side of the hundred. The principal part of it was given to the monastery of Ely, by Ethelwold bishop of Winchester, in the time of king Edgar, and when the tenures and services of several lordships belonging to that monastery were settled in the time of Leoffwine, the 5th abbot, this was obliged to furnish the house with provisions for two weeks in every year.

In the time of the Confessor Stigand archbishop of Canterbury was lord, and had the soc, but was deprived of it at the conquest. At the general survey it was in the Conqueror's hands, and kept for him by William de Noiers. In the Confessor's time it was valued at 20l. at the survey at 30l. per ann. It was two leagues

leagues long, and half a one in breadth, and paid 2s. ob. gelt.

Another part or lordship was, at the survey, held by William earl Warren, valued then at 45s. per ann. Simon and Jeffrey held of the said earl two carucates, valued at 40s. per ann. and Stigand had the soc.

The town takes its name (as most do) from its scite, Methelwold, that is, the wold between Northwold, and Hockwold, the Middlewold; and thus it was wrote in the time of Henry II. when Simon de Middlewold was amerced 10 marks for pleading in court-christian about lay-fees, just after the dispute between Henry II. and Becket archbishop of Canterbury.

Soon after the survey the Conqueror gave that lordship, which Stigand held, to the earl Warren, and thus he became lord of the whole town. In the reign of Henry III. the earl Warren held it of the king in capite, as parcel of his barony. In the 15th of Edward I. the earl claimed in his manor here a gallows, view of frankpledge, and free-warren; but in the 12th of Edward II. John earl Warren and Surrey, having no issue, feuled this manor after his own decease, with those of Gimingham, Beeston, and Thetford, the hundred of Brothercross and Gallow, and 39 knights fees in divers towns, with the king's licence, on Thomas earl of Lancaster; and in the 21st of Edward III. this manor was held of the said earl in free socage, by the service of one bearded arrow. There was a mes-suage and a pigeon-house, valued yearly at 3l. 600 acres of arable land, price per acre per ann. 2d. 6 acres of meadow, valued at 6s. and one wind-mill valued at 20s. The Segges marsh was valued at 10l. and Redmere

marsh at 10l. Rents of assize in Methwold, Northwold, Woodrising, Hilgay, and Wells, belonging to this manor, 7l. per ann. and with the days-works, customs, and services of the tenants, 7l. per ann. more. The pleas and perquisites of courts, with the leet in Methwold, Wells, and Hilgay, were worth 6l. per ann.

In the 28th of the said king, Henry duke of Lancaster held it of the king in free soccage, by the service of a rose; and on the death of the said duke it was assigned; in the 35th of Edward III. to Maud, his daughter and co-heiress, married to William duke of Heinault, and on her decease, without issue, it came to Blanch, her sister and co-heiress, the wife of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster. John of Gaunt, by the lady Blanch, had Henry, his son and heir, duke of Lancaster, and afterwards king of England, by the name of Henry IV. Thus it became vested in the crown, and the succeeding kings, as dukes of Lancaster, enjoy it, and the lord Berkley, of Stratton, holds it by lease from the crown.

**BROOMHILL MANOR.** Besides the capital manor of Methwold, there was one held by the prior, and given to that house by sir Hugh de Playz, (which family held lands here of the earl Warren) on his founding the aforesaid priory.

After this other lands were aliened, so that in 1428 the temporalities of that house were valued at 3l. 3s. per ann. On the dissolution of the aforesaid priory it was granted, together with that priory, to cardinal Wolsey, and came, after his attainder, to Christ's college, in which house it still continues, and is leased out by that society.

From

From the will of William Bachcroft, esq. of Bexwell, who died in 1518, we find the manors of Tuddenham, Gunton, and Hilly, in this town, of which he died possessed. Gunton's was held of the king, as parcel of the manor of Methwold, and the duchy of Lancaster in socage, and paying 5s. rent per ann. and Hilly's was held as the other, paying 3s. 4d. per ann. They are now wholly lost, or neglected, and that of Gunton's is said to be in the hands of Robert Clough, esq. of Feltwell.

OTRINGHITHE. In this hundred of Grimshoe we find a town in the general survey wrote Otrinkechia, and Otringheia, then the land of the earl Warren, and one Gaulter held then of the earl a mediety of the town, valued at 20s. It was four furlongs long, and three broad, and paid 4d gelt.

This name is now lost, but was the same place that we now call Methwold-hithe, a little hamlet about a mile west of the town, and now in the parish of Methwold. The family of De Playz had a considerable estate here, and in the reign of Henry II. there was a church, concerning the patronage of which there was a great controversy between sir Ralph de Playz and the convent of Acre, which was adjusted by William Turbus, bishop of Norwich, when it was allowed to be the right of the said Ralph, and his heirs for ever, to present to the same; and the person presented was to pay to the church of St. Mary de Acre 12d. on the payment of which the convent had no further claim or demand. This estate and church was given (it being part of Broomhill manor) to the convent of Broomhill. In 1428 the temporalities of that house in Otringhithe were valued at 9l. 10s. 3d. and on the dissolution of that priory, when it was granted by the king to cardinal Wolsey,

it is stiled the manor of Oteringhithe, with the rectory. On the attainder of the said cardinal it came to Christ's college, in Cambridge, and being united to the manor of Broomhill, is leased out with it, by that society.

The church hath been in ruins many ages, in it the prior and convent of Castle Acre had an interest, for William, the second earl Warren, is said to have given, in the reign of Henry I. the church\* here to that priory, but yet it was afterwards found to be in the family of de Playz.

There was formerly a considerable market at Methwold, kept on Tuesday, but now is almost disused, and there is a fair yearly on St. George's day. Its warren is large and famous to a proverb, for rabbits. A late author† observes, that in the reign of king Canute, Leoffwine abbot of Ely agreed to find the duke of Lancaster's family with them two months in every year, but at that time there was no duke thus entitled, nor for many ages after. Great suits have been commenced on account of the damage of the rabbits, and in 1606 there was a cause depending in chancery, and another in the duchy court of Lancaster, between sir William Paston, sir Philip Wodehouse, sir John Heveningham, sir Edmund Mundford, &c. lords of the adjoining towns, and the warrener.

The church of Methwold is dedicated to St. George, and was built in the reign of Edward II. as appears

\* Dug. Mon. Ang. v. 1. p. 625. This was most likely the church of St. Helen, which, as we learn from Deomsday, was then endowed with a carucate of land.

† Britan. Ant. et Nova. p. 34. Norff.

pears from the pile, and the arms of the earl Warren in the chancel window, before it came it into the Lancaster family. It is a regular building, with a nave, north and south ailes, and a chancel of flint, pebble-stones, &c. covered with lead. The nave is in length, from the screen to the arch of the tower, 54 feet, and in breadth, including the ailes, about 46 feet. The roof of the nave is supported by fluted pillars of stone, forming four lofty arches on each side, and over them as many windows; and on the heads of the principal wood-work of the roof are figures of the religious. At the east end of the nave lie several marble grave-stones, deprived of their brass plates. At the south end of the screen is a stone stair-case, the way to the rood-loft. Over this part of the church, on the gable of the chancel, is an arch of stone and brick, where the saint's bell formerly hung. This bell, as a worthy author has observed, was not so called from the saint's name that was inscribed on it, nor from that saint to which the church was dedicated, but because it was always rung out when the priest came to that part of the service, “*Sancte, Sancte, Sancte, Domine Deus Sabaoth, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth, or Hosts,*” purposely that they who would not come to church might understand what a solemn office the congregation were at that instant engaged in, and so even in their absence be once at least moved to lift up their hearts to him that made them. For this reason the Sancte's bell was generally hung where it might be heard farthest. Sometimes in a lanthorn at the top of the steeple, or in a turret at one corner of it, if a tower; sometimes thrust out of the uppermost window, if a spire, and sometimes in an arch, or gallows, on the outside of the roof, between the church and chancel. The last sort were so placed that the rope might come down into the church, and so being near the altar, the bell might be more readily rung

rung out when the priest came to the sacred words. To this we may add another more prevailing reason, it being ordained in the church of Rome, that on the consecration and elevation of the host notice should be given in every church, by the sound of a bell, that the faithful not present might be put in mind of this great mystery.

There is now such an arch, with a bell in it, between the church and chancel of Diss, in Norfolk, with the rope hanging down, as you enter the chancel; also at Blakeney, &c.

The chancel is separated from the church by a wooden screen, but the pannels of it seem to have been transposed. On them are these inscriptions:

On the left side as you enter the chancel,—*Orate pro animabus Rici: Stalworthy, et Thomæ filij ejusdem qui fieri fec : : : : et animab: Thomæ Crofte et Roberti Keteryngton.*

On the right.—*Orate pro anima Roberti Keteryngton, junioris, et Margar: ux: ejus : : : : orate pro bono statu juvenum.*

The chancel is about thirty feet in length, and nineteen in breadth, and has an ascent of three steps to the communion table.

On the area before the steps lies a large marble grave-stone, about ten feet in length, and four in breadth; on this has been the portraiture, or effigy, of a person here interred, in compleat armour, with a canopy of brass work over his head, and four shields, one at each corner, also two rims, or plates of brass, running about the whole marble; the effigies

gies (with all the brasses) was about fifty years since (as it is said) reaved by a sacrilegious wretch, then clerk of the parish, and sold to a tinker, of whom some part of the brasses were recovered, but not before he had broke them into small pieces; some of these fragments are still preserved in the church chest, but they are only insignificant pieces of his armour, part of the head of the lion that was couchant at his feet; most of them are rim pieces that ornamented the stone, and have quater-foils on them. The tradition here is, that this was in memory of one of the earls Warren, lords of the town, from whom they had their privileges, but we cannot come into that opinion: the burial of that noble family is well known and allowed by all antiquaries to have been in the abbey of Lewes, in Sussex; John, the last heir male of that noble family, died in the 21st of Edward III. being then 61 years of age, and was buried under a raised tomb, near the high altar, in the abbey of Lewes. It is, no doubt, in memory of some considerable person, but from the shape, figure, armour, dress, and other insignia, as may in some measure be gathered from the incisions in the stone, it appears to be in memory of some esquire, or knight, rather than of a lord, or earl.

In a loose paper of the late worthy antiquary, Mr. le Neve, norroy, the hand writing of Guybon Goddard, (as he says) we have this:—"Methwold, in the chancel, a man in compleat arms, a surcoat of Warren, or Clifton, (quere) for the place where the bend might be, and the direst place for the bend is broken out, four places for escutcheons, three defaced, one left, a fess between two chevrons, and a file with three labels."—In an old manuscript, quoted by Mr. le Neve, are these words:

*Clifton.*

*Clifton.* } Adam de Clifton, on the gravestone,  
*Methwold.* } *Obijt - - - CCLXVII.*

Sir Adam de Clifton was lord of Cranwich, and Hilburgh, &c. in the 20th of Edward III. and held several fees of the earl Warren: this knight lived the greatest part of that king's reign, and died on the 28th of January, 1367.

The only difference and way of knowing the arms of Warren from those of Clifton, (when engraven, and not painted) is by the bend in the arms of Clifton; but this we are told was broken out, most likely on purpose, to induce persons to believe it to be the arms of Warren. The other arms then remaining we take to be the arms of Bainard.

On the pavement, about the communion table, lie several marble grave-stones, in memory of the family of Swift, of Methwold.

And one inscribed—*To sir Hugh Cartwright, of Nottingham, knt. who died in 1668, aged 74.*

At the west end of the nave is a good four-square tower, embattled and coped with free-stone, and ornamented with a pinnacle at each corner; herein is a clock, and a dial plate, against the belfry, fronting the nave of the church; the tower is built of flint-stone, &c. with quoins of free-stone, wherein hang five large musical bells; on this square tower is raised another octangular one, and out of this rises a neat octangular spire, or pyramid of crocket work, on the summit of which is a vane; this octangular tower and spire is of brick, but cased with free-stone.

William

William the first earl Warren in the time of the Conqueror gave this church, amongst others, to the priory of Castle Acre, which he had founded; and by deed without date the prior of Lewes, with the consent of the whole chapter, gave to the prior and monks of Castle Acre the tythe of this church, for the yearly rent of 40s. This we take to be the pension paid by Castle Acre to Lewes, as being then a cell to that house.

Thomas Britton, rector of St. George de Melewda\*, (as it is sometimes also wrote) exchanged lands with Hamline Plantagenet, earl Warren; this must be between the years 1163, and 1202. for then the earl died; by this it plainly appears that the church was not at that time appropriated.

William earl Warren in an epistle to Pandulf, bishop of Norwich, in or about 1203, earnestly entreats him that he would appropriate to the said priory this church; and to move him to it, he lets him know, that his ancestors had assigned this church to the aforesaid monastery, to find firing for strangers, and all the poor that should come to the monastery, of which there is great want in those parts, and indeed it seems not to be fully confirmed to them till the year 1249, when Walter de Suffield, bishop of Norwich, granted this request, dated at Marham, January 6, 1249.

In 1299. August 2, the bishop of Norwich settled the right and privileges of the rector, and of the vicarages, when the vicar had his present house assigned him.

In

\* Dug. Mon. Ang. v. 1. p. 639.

In 1428 the spiritualities of the prior, &c. of Castle Acre, in this church, were valued at thirty-four marks, and the spiritualities of the prior of Lewes at 40s. being the portion, or pension before-mentioned, due from Castle Acre priory. Here is only seven rods of glebe land.

At the dissolution of the priory of Castle Acre a fine was levied between the king, and Thomas prior of Castle Acre, of this rectory, and the advowson of the vicarage; but soon after, on December 22, in the said year, the king granted them to Thomas duke of Norfolk, together with the pension belonging to the abbey of Lewes.

In 1603 the vicar observed that there were 252 communicants here, and that the lords Thomas and William Howard were patrons, and held the parsonage inappropriate.

Thomas earl of Arundel had licence Sept. 1, in the 11th of James I. to alienate this rectory, and the advowson of the vicarage, to sir Henry Hobart; and in 1673, December 24, the lady Zouch (relict of James Hobart, esq.) and Thomas lord Richardson presented.

August 9, 1722, the late Roger North, esq. of Rougham, presented as impropriator; and in 1768 the Rev. William Green was presented to this vicarage by Henry Partridge, esq. of Northwold, lately recorder of Lynn-Regis.

SLEVESHOLM PRIORY, commonly called SLUSHAM, was in the parish of Methwold, in the marsh, or fens, about a mile and a half west of the church of the said town; it was a cell to the priory of Castle Acre, founded

founded by William earl Warren and Surrey, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and St. Giles, who by deed gave (in the reign of king Stephen) "a certain *island* in the moor, or fen of Melewolde, called Slevesholm;" the prior was to be a monk of, and to be elected out of the priory of Castle Acre, and was to be presented to, and admitted by the earl Warren, and his heirs, &c. on his doing fealty to him.

In 1428 the temporalities of it were valued at 35s. 7d. ob. per annum.

On the dissolution it was granted to the Mundefords, of Feltwell; and in 1600 Edmund Mundeford held it. After this we find it possessed by captain Smith, of Croxton, who conveyed it to Edward Saunders Seabright; sir Thomas Seabright, bart. died possessed of it in 1736; and the present sir John Seabright, bart. lieutenant-general of his majesty's forces, is the present lord.

Methwold, vulgarly pronounced Mewell, is a large and populous village. The church is remarkably handsome, with a good ring of bells, and a clock. The spire is seen every way from ten to twenty miles off, and the post road from London to Lynn passes by the east end of the town.

Methwold Severals is a district of the Bedford-level, rented on lease by Francis Dixon, esq. an eminent merchant at Upwell, in Cambridgeshire, who has made very considerable improvements on the lands, especially in the culture of rape-feed, which he manufactures into oil, at his mill at Congham, in Freebridge hundred, seven miles east of the port of Lynn. This gentleman was high sheriff of the counties of Cambridge, and Huntingdon, a few years since, and is now receiver-general of the land-tax in the former:

mer: his extensive knowledge in trade, and agriculture, can only be equalled by his conduct as a magistrate, and gentleman.

**MUNDFORD, MUNDEFORD, or MOUNDEFORD,** wrote Mondefort, and Mundeforda, in Doomsday-book. On the south side of the Wissey, and on the opposite shore to Ickburgh, stands this village, through which the London road from Swaffham, Fakenham, &c. leads, where there is a brick and stone bridge over the river, a little distance from the town, for the safety of travellers. In the time of the Saxons the river was, no doubt, fordable at this place, and the ford, being defended and secured by some fence, or fort, it being the very inlet into the Icianii, might derive its name from *Mund*, which signifies, in the Saxon tongue, a rampart, or place of defence, the other ford above it being called Lynford, from its miry and watry passage\*.

This village was given to the monastery of Ely in the reign of king Edgar, by Ethelwold bishop of Winchester; at the survey it was valued at 40l. per annum. There were seven socmen that belonged to this manor, with all their customary dues, which William earl Warren possessed; it is one league long, and half a one broad, and pays 11d. gelt.

**WEST-HALL.** The manor, or part of the town belonging to the church of Ely, was afterwards called West-Hall, and was held in the reign of Henry II. by Gerald, the king's chamberlain.

In the 24th of Henry III. the prior of Broomhill was wont to receive a rent of mixting and barley of Henry Fitz-Gerald, out of lands in this town.

In

\* Blomfield.

In the 44th of Henry III. Robert de Insula, or L'Isle, held a messuage and two carucates of land here, with the advowson of the church of Mundford.

This family of L'Isle held of the descendants of Warine Fitz-Gerald, of whom Henry Fitz-Gerald (as has been observed) held it in the reign of king John, whose daughter and heir, Alice, married sir Robert L'Isle. In the 51st year of Henry III. Margaret de Raparijs, countess of Devonshire, daughter and heir of the aforesaid Warine, brought an action of dower against Isabel de Fortibus, countess of Albemarle, for half a knight's fee in this town.

In the 3d of Edward I. sir Gerard de Insula, or L'Isle, was found to hold the moiety of this town of the bishop of Ely, as part of his barony, and he of the king; he had the assize of bread and beer. This Gerard was summoned in the 10th of the aforesaid king, amongst the barons, to attend the king in his Welch expedition; and in the 15th year he was summoned to consult with Edmund earl of Cornwall, then custos of England, on the king's absence at Gloucester, and to be prepared with horse and arms, for the expedition into Wales.

In 1500 sir Warine L'Isle was lord, and presented to the church, and in the 9th of Edward II. was returned to be lord; he being concerned with earl of Lancaster in the barons wars against the king, was hanged at York, in the 14th year of the said king. This Warine is said to have held it by the service of a spar-hawk, and there were then two water-mills in the said town.

In the 5th of Richard II. sir Robert L'Isle granted the manor to sir John Plays, knt. of Weeting, in exchange  
F

exchange for the manor of Fretwell, in Oxfordshire, This sir John being the last heir male of the family, left it to William Beauchamp, and others, his feoffees, to be alienated to his priory of Broomhill.

In 1401 Richard Payne, &c. sold the manor (not being able, most likely, to obtain a licence of mortmain) to Richard Seyve, who held it by half a fee, in the 3d of Henry IV. and died seised of it.

In 1518 William Seyve was lord and patron, who died April 8, in the 20th of Henry VIII. and left Christopher, his son and heir, a minor; but in 1556 Roger Woodhouse, esq. seems, by the institution books, to be lord and patron; and soon after Richard Killingworth, who presented in 1561.

In 1634, Feb. 26, Giles Killingworth, esq. died seised of it. Soon after this it was purchased by sir Giles Allington, knt. and settled on James, his son, who dying young, by a fall from his horse, it came to William lord Allington; and on the death of the last Hildebrand lord Allington it descended to the late duke of Somerset, and is now in the heirs of his grace.

**EAST-HALL.** William earl Warren, who had many lordships of the monastery of Ely by exchange at the conquest, had seven socmen in this town, who held lands valued at 10s. per ann. He had also what was held by a free-man of Harold's, valued at 10s. per annum.

These parts made up this manor of East-Hall, of which Osbert de Mandeford was lord in the 34th of Henry III. and it was held of John de Cokefield, who held it of the earl Warren, and the earl of the king;

king; it is probable it descended to the Cokefields by the marriage of the daughters and heirs of Fulk de Beaufoe.

By the daughter and heir of the second Osbert de Mundeford, who died in 1456, it came to sir William Tindale, knt. but did not continue long in that family, for in the 82d of Henry VIII. Robert Canon was possessed of it.

About the year 1690 it was purchased by sir Giles Allington, and from him it descended (as is before observed) to the heirs of the late duke of Somerset.

**Bigot's MANOR.** Besides the manors before mentioned, Roger Bigot had at the survey sixty acres of land, &c. valued at 2s. per ann. This was afterwards held by Gerald, the king's chamberlain, and so descended to the L'Isles, &c. This was always held by the lords of West-Hall, of the earls and dukes of Norfolk.

In the 6th of Henry VI. Richard Seyve held it of the duchy of Lancaster, lately belonging to Thomas Mowbray, duke of Norfolk; and in the 11th of Henry VI. it was held of John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, of his manor of Fornacet, and being thus united to the other manors, it is held by the heirs of the late duke of Somerset. The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The church is dedicated to St. Leonard; it is a single pile of flint, &c. the body is in length about sixty feet, and twenty-six in breadth, and is covered with tiles; at the west end stands a four-square tower of the aforesaid materials, embattled with copings, and quoins of free-stone; herein hang three bells.

The chancel is about thirty feet in length, and seventeen in breadth, and is covered with reed.

At present there are no shields remaining, but formerly there was the shield of sir Robert Knowls, the great warrior, in the reigns of Edward III. and Richard II. also of Tindale, and Mundeford.

In answer to king James's queries, in 1603, the rector observes that there were eighty-six communicants in this parish.

The church is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 7l. 17s. 6d. and being 40l. per ann. in clear value, is discharged of first fruits, &c.

In 1770 the Rev. George Wright was presented to this rectory by the right honourable the earl and countess of Aylesford, p.j.

NORTHWOLD, vulgarly pronounced Nor'old, and wrote Northwalde in Doomsday-book, adjoins to Methwold, and lies on the south fide of the river Wissey; it is called Wold from its situation in an open country, and North in respect of Methwold, and Hockwold. It was given by Ethelwold bishop of Winchester, in the reign of king Edgar, to the monastery of Ely, being royal demesne, and that prelate is said to have given to the king Hertinge in exchange; it was at that time estimated at twelve hides.

At the general survey we find that the powerful earl Warren had deprived the monastery of part of this town, and that there were then two lordships here, one belonging to the church of Ely, the other to the earl Warren.

BISHOP of ELY'S MANOR. That lordship which St. Adeldred (that is the church of Ely, so called from St. Audrey, the foundress) held at the time of the survey was valued at 9*l.* the town was one leuca long, half a one broad, and paid 3*d.* ob. gelt. In the time of Leoffwine, the fifth abbot of Ely, when the tenures and services belonging to the monastery were settled, this was enjoined to furnish the house with provisions for two weeks in every year. This part, or manor, was held by the abbots and convent of Ely till the reign of Henry I. when the church being changed into a bishop's see, it was settled on the bishop,

In the 3d of Edward I. the bishop held this lordship, being a moiety of the town, in capite, as parcel of his barony; and in the 7th of the said king there was an extent of it, when the jurors said that the bishop had liberty of holding all pleas which the sheriff might, with writ, or without, a gallows, tumbrel, view of frankpledge, assize of bushels, flagons, and other measures, and the advowson of the church; but the prior of Castle Acre had two parts of the tithes of the earl Warren's fee, called New-Land, which sir Thomas de Paveli, and Roger de Wylsham, and their parcers, held in demesne.

The manor lands were, 488 acres of arable, by the great hundred, and the perch of sixteen feet, at 4*d.* per acre, the meadow twenty acres at 6*d.* per acre, but if any field lay fallow, then the feed of it was common. The heath called Scorteling was common to all the manors of the town, for feeding only; the marsh called South-Fen consisted of 1000 acres, in which the whole soc of the town might feed, dig, &c. but the soc of Methwold could only feed there, as this township did in the common of

Methwold, with their beasts, horn, and underhorn. There was another marsh called North-Fen, wherein the whole town might dig, feed, common, &c. and a common pasture between the town and Cranwich, in which the township might feed only. The several fisheries of Edred's were held by sir Osbert de Helgey; Yxeheth, and Ruwere, by John de la How; in Fulheth-Mere, Beche, Littlewere, Hithwere, and Tappys, none but the bishop was to fish.

In an account of Edmund Pierpoint, receiver-general of the revenues of the fee of Ely, about the reign of queen Mary, the reserved rent of this manor amounted to 22l. 10s. 11d. ob. it continued in the fee till queen Elizabeth, in the beginning of her reign, had it settled by act of parliament on the Crown, by way of exchange, and it was held of the crown by the payment of 22l. per ann. since which time it has gone through several hands, viz. Pierce, Croft, &c. and was sold by sir Philip Skippon, and sir Robert Hatton, to Thomas Holder, esq. in the 35th of Charles II. who by Bridget, daughter of Richard Graves, of Mickleton, in Gloucestershire, esq. bencher and reader of Lincoln's-Inn, had one daughter and heir, Elizabeth, married to Henry Partridge, esq. late of Buckenham-House, lord of this manor, whose son, Henry Partridge, esq. of Lynn-Regis, by his second wife, daughter of Mr. Wright, of London, is the present lord.

The before-mentioned fee-farm rent of 22l. per ann. out of this manor, payable to the crown, was granted to sir John Mordaunt, and on the foundation of his hospital, on Blackheath, he settled it on that house.

DAGENEY'S MANOR. At the general survey we find the earl Warren possessed of a manor, or moiety, of this town, which in the Confessor's time was held by the church of Ely, valued at 6os. but at 5l. per ann. at the survey.

This part the aforesaid earl bestowed on his dependents, to be held of him by knight's service, amongst which was the family of 'de Pavili, or Pavilleys, who were ancient lords of this manor; and in the reign of Henry I. Ralph de Pavili gave the tithes of all his land in this town to the abbey of Castle Acre, founded by the earl Warren. In the 1st of king John Ralph de Beauchamp had a grant of the custody of the heir of Reginald de Pavili, with all the land he held in fee, the day he began his journey to Jerusalem, in which journey he died.

In the 3d of Edward I. Roger Dakeney, or de Akeney, held a fourth part of this town of the earl Warren; from this Roger Dakeney the manor assumed its name, and was the same part and lordship that was held before by the Pavilis.

Sir Thomas Dakeney served Edward I. in his wars against the Scots, and is on the roll amongst other Norfolk knights that lived in that king's reign; and his arms are still to be seen in one of the chancel windows of Northwold church.

In the 19th of Edward I. this manor, twenty-one messuages, &c. and 4l. rent, were conveyed to the bishop of Ely for 200 marks, who gave it to the prior and convent of Ely, and by them it was exchanged with Thomas de Chepham, for the manor of Overhall, and Netherhall, at Littlebury, in Essex; but in the 14th of Edward III. Richard de Walpole, and

Martin de Mendham, chaplains, held it by half a knight's fee of sir John de Norwich, as belonging to the manor of Sculthorpe, in Gallow hundred.

In the 5<sup>th</sup> of Richard II. William earl of Suffolk, son of Margaret, sister and heir of sir Thomas de Norwich, was the capital lord.

In the 3<sup>d</sup> of Henry IV. Thomas Monchensy held the same of sir Robert Knolls, (the famous warrior) and he of the king, as duke of Lancaster, having purchased this, and the manor of Havell, in this town, most probably of John de Weafenham, who was lord of both in the reign of Edward III. From Monchensy it passed with that of Havell to the Talbots, and Thomas Talbot died lord Sept. 14, 1474, and lies buried with his wife, in the church of Northwold.

Aster this the manors of Dageney and Havell passed into the family of Hobart; and in the 31<sup>st</sup> of Henry VIII. Walter Hobart, then a knight, conveyed them by fine to John Ball.

After this they were possessed by Mr. Adamson, who in 1704 sold them to Thomas Holder, esq. whose widow was lady of the aforesaid manors.

**HAVELL'S, or HOVIL'S MANOR.** Another part of the earl Warren's fee, or moiety of this town, was given by that earl to the Plays; and in the 12<sup>th</sup> of Henry III. Hugh de Plays granted to Ralph de Dunton the fourth part of a knight's fee here, to be held of him; but in the 9<sup>th</sup> of Edward II. William de Havell (from whom this lordship had its name) was lord; and in the 24<sup>th</sup> of Edward III. this manor was

was conveyed to John de Weasenham, who in the 35th of the said king died seised of the same.

After this it was held by Thomas Monchenfy, and passed from him to Talboth, &c. as is observed in the manor of Dageney, to which it was then united.

The scite of this manor is now to be seen in a pasture-close at the south-east end of the town.

In the town of Northwold is a fair kept yearly on St. Andrew's day, (Nov. 30) to which Saint the church is dedicated.

Hugh de Norwold, bishop of Ely, in the reign of Henry III. and John de Norwold, abbot of Bury, in 1280, who wrote the annals of this kingdom, and the dispute between Robert Groshead, bishop of Lincoln, and pope Innocent IV. were natives of this place.

The priories of Westacre, Shouldham, and Castle Acre, had temporalities here.

The church is dedicated to St. Andrew, and has a nave, north and south aisles, with a chancel, all built with flint-stone, boulder, &c. covered with lead; at the west end of the nave is a very large and lofty four-square tower of the aforesaid materials, with quoins and battlements of free-stone, and eight pinnacles of stone carved; in this tower hang five bells; and a clock, with a dial, on the south side, fronting the street. This neat and strong tower was built in the reign of Edward IV. The church is about sixty-five feet in length, and fifty-five in breadth, including the aisles.

Near

Near the font lies a large marble grave-stone, and thereon the portraiture of a man in brafs, but that of his wife is reaved, and on the plate of brass this:—  
*Orate pro anima Johannis Perse, qui obijt xii<sup>o</sup> die mensis Novemb. A<sup>o</sup>. Dni: mccccv. et pro anima Katharine, uxor ejus, quorum animabus propitietur Deus, Amen.*

This gentleman gave by will, in 1501, a messuage with sixty-one acres of land to this town, for charitable uses, which they enjoy at this day.

At the upper end of the nave, in the cross aisle, lies a marble grave-stone, once ornamented with a cup of brass, which has a plate inscribed—*To John Dawson, who died Feb. 28, 1531.*

Some few years past, just as you enter the chancel, lay a grey marble, with a plate thus inscribed:—  
*Orate pro animabus Thomæ Talbothe, qui obijt xiv<sup>o</sup>. die Septemb. A<sup>o</sup>. Dni. mcccclxxiv. et Johanne uxor ejus, quorum animabus propitietur Deus, Amen.*

The grave-stone in memory of the ancient lord of Dageney, and Havell, is now removed and lost, and in its place lies one with an inscription,—*To Richard Carter, gent. who died July 10, 1723, aged 75 years.*

At the west end of the nave is a large gallery for the singers; and here are also several leather buckets, and a fire-engine, dated 1717, the gift of Henry Partridge, esq. of Buckenham-house.

The roof of the nave is of oak, painted, and gilt with gold, it is ornamented with the letter A. and a crown over it, in honour of St. Andrew, and with many spread eagles fab. St. George's arms. The arms

arms of Fordham bishop of Ely, in the reign of Richard II. In his time it is probable the present church was built, and above these arms (at some distance) a mitre may be observed.

Here are also the arms of Ely, and St. Edmund, or the East Angles.

The chancel appears, from the workmanship, to be more antique than the nave.

On the head of an oaken stall in the chancel is this shield carved :—az, a saltire gul. between a mullet in chief, pierced or, and 3 doves (as they seem) arg. The greatest part of the same arms is now remaining in the hall of the rectory house, and was some years past to be seen in the parlour windows, and near to it was painted the effigy of some rector sitting alone (as great as Epicurus himself) at a table well furnished with meat and drink, and this motto, *gaudere et epulari opportet.*

On the pavement, near the north wall, lies a marble stone, having Holder impaling Greaves. Thomas Holder died February 24, 1713, aged 74.

In the middle of the pavement is a marble grave-stone, and on it a plate of brass, on which Scot is impaling three leopards :—*To Thomas Scot, rector, who died November 12, 1616, aged 68.*

On the pavement before the communion table is a marble stone,—*To Deborah Novell, wife of the Rev. Dr. Novell, who died May 1, 1661.*

Against the east end of the north wall of the chancel is a large and lofty pile of clunch, or chalk-stone,

stone, the upper part is of curious wrought spire-work, with arched canopies, adorned with many niches, and in them little pedestals for images. On the body, or lower part, are the effigies of three men in armour, and three trees, a tree between each man, all in a declining falling posture, which was, before the reformation, called "The sepulchre of our Lord." The posture of the men alluding to what the scripture observes of the guard, or keepers of the sepulchre: " And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men, and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent, &c." These sepulchres were erected always on the north side of the chancel, near to the altar.

Great wax lights were generally burning, and great pomp and pageantry used here on high festivals. On the day of the resurrection, or Easter day, the crucifix and the pix were taken out of this place, where they were deposited in a solemn manner on Good Friday, by the priest, on the saying *surrexit, non est hic.*

On the south side of the chancel lies the body of Robert Burhill, D. D. rector of this church, and residuary of Hereford, who by his learned works, wrote in latin against the champions of the Romish church, did great service to the protestant cause in general, as well as to the church of England in particular. He was most intimate with the famous sir Walter Raleigh, and assisted him in the critical part of his History of the world. He was also a good antiquary and poet, as well as a great divine, which appears from several manuscripts of his, now at Oxford. In this place he took sanctuary at the breaking out of the troubles in October 1641. To revive the memory of so worthy and

and learned a man, Samuel Knight, D. D. prebendary of Ely, erected the table an. Dni. 1727.

In the lowest window of the chancel, on the south side, is Woodhouse's arms, and in the upper window, on the north side, Dakeney. Besides these, there were formerly France and England quarterly, Knowls, Talbot, Curche, and the arms of the priory, and deanery of Ely.

Ralph de Pavili, who held part of this town of William earl Warren, gave in the reign of Henry I. the tithes of his land here to the priory of Castle Acre, tithe being in that age in the gift of any lord, or owner, so that it was assigned, or given to any church, or religious house, and Walcheline de Rosei, who held also lands here of the aforesaid earl, gave the tithes of his land to the aforesaid priory. On the dissolution of that priory it came to the crown, and passed from thence to the duke of Norfolk, since as a lay-fee through several hands, and the Rev. Mr. Pile, of Lynn, is the present owner.

About 1290 the rector had a house, and a carucate of land, valued at 41 marks, and paid 3s. Peter-pence.

Thomas Wrenn, M. D. and S. T. B. presented rector, June 15, 1651, was son to the bishop of Ely, educated in Cambridge, and created doctor of physic, Oxford, August 2, 1653, by the chancellor's letters.

William Holder, rector here in 1662, was fellow of Pembroke-hall, in Cambridge, canon of Ely and St. Paul's. sub-deacon of the king's chapel, sub-almoner, &c.

On

On May 9, 1691, the king presented Thomas Armstrong to this rectory. The bishop of Ely is now patron.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 29l. 15s. gd. ob. and pays first fruits 26l. 16s. 3q. Tenthys 59s. 5d. 3q.

In 1277 Andrew de Ripa held a water-mill here, and its appurtenances, paying 30s. yearly for all services, which were assigned towards the maintenance of a chaplain in the church of Northwold *for ever*, by the charter or deed of Hugh bishop of Ely, and this chaplain was found by the rector, and called the chantry chaplain.

In this church there were the guilds of the Holy Trinity, and of St. John the Baptist.

Richard Powle, vicar of Fouldon, in 1479 gave about 40 acres of land, &c. in this town to the township, to repair the church, &c. which they at this day enjoy.

The village of Northwold lies on the road from Thetford to Lynn, and has in it the seat of Henry Partridge, esq. an eminent counsellor at law, and late recorder of Lynn-Regis.

In 1774 the Rev. James Bentham was instituted to the rectory, by the right reverend the lord bishop of Ely.

WITTINGTON is a hamlet about three miles northwest of the town, and near Stoke-ferry, belonging to this township. In the 15th of James I. Charles Croft, esq. was found to have died possessed of a free tenement,

tenement, and lands here, called Hulliars, held of the manor of Northwold, in free soccage, and the rent of 9s. 11d. per ann. The roads from Thetford and Brandon unite here, and pass from hence over Stokebridge, towards Lynn, Downham, &c.

SANTON, or SAND-TOWN. This is now a depopulated village, and has only a manor, or farm-house. It lies westward of Croxton, near the little Ouse, that divides this county from Suffolk. In ancient writings it is wrote Santon, and Stanton, and so may take its name, either from its sandy situation, or from the number of flinty stones that are in the sands. At the survey it was the lordship of William earl Warren, and there were three carucates, valued at 10s. per ann.

In the reign of Henry III. Peter de Barew held this lordship of the earl Warren, and he in capite, as parcel of his barony.

In the 9th of Edward II. Nicholas de Stanton was returned as lord of this place, but the toll of the ferry here belonged to the lord of Thetford, as was found on the death of Ralph de Cobham, lord of Thetford. The aforesaid Nicholas conveyed the manor to Roger de Bodney, and on St. Matthew's day, in the 8th of Richard II. John de Bodney, by his deed then dated at Santon, gave to trustees his manor in Stanton, with the rents, services, &c. and all his lands and tenements in Wilton, Hockwold, and Didlington, who held it as trustees, 'till could be settled on the prior and convent of St. Mary of Thetford; and in the 7th of Henry VII. Nov. 19, John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, being one of the trustees, obtained licence of mortmain, on the prior and convent's payment of 25l. to the king; and sir John Howard, lord of

of the fee, confirmed the same on the 17th of December, in the aforesaid year. On the dissolution of the priory at Thetford, it was given, with the scite of that house, to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, and being forfeited on the attainder of the said duke, Edward VI. by his letters patent, dated May 6th, in the 5th year of his reign, gave it to John Cheeke, esq. (his school-master) to be held of him in capite, paying 28s. 4d. per ann. but it came again to the crown, by a fine passed in the third and fourth of Philip and Mary, between the said king and queen and sir John Cheeke; and in the following year it was enjoyed by Thomas duke of Norfolk, and was alienated by the earl of Arundel and Surrey, to Thomas Bancroft, gent. on the 21st of June, in the 21st of James I. to be held, by him, of the king in capite, by the 40th part of a knight's fee. The said Thomas left, by Margaret his wife, three daughters; Helen, the eldest, married Robert Sadler, gent. who had a daughter married to Thomas Saunders, esq. of Beachwood, in Herefordshire, who purchasing the other shares, left it to his daughter and heiress, the wife of sir Edward Seabright, bart. From this last family it came to — Copinger, esq. and from him to Roger Petward, esq. the present lord.

The prior and convent of Castle Acre, had a portion of tithes here, valued at 4s. 5d. per ann.

The present fabric is very small, rebuilt out of the ruins of the old one, (which was dedicated to All-saints) about a century past, of flint, and some brick, being in length about 10 feet, and in breadth about 15. The roof is camered, plastered, and covered with tiles. At the south-west corner is a little place raised above the roof, in which hangs one bell. Near the east end, on the pavement, lies a marble stone thus

thus inscribed:—*Thomas Bancroft, armiger, ex præcipuis in archivis, ejus qui præfecto ærarij regij a memoria est librarijs. Cujus impensis unicis atque ultroneis, ecclesia hæc funditus antiquitus demolita, proprijsque ruderibus sopita longum sepultaque, tandem rediviva resurrexit, cui Margareta conjux præcharissima, (præter plerosque liberos jam diu in cineres redactos) tres peperit filias, nimirum, Helenam, Roberto Sadlier in agro Hertfordiensi apud Sopwell, divi albani pago vicinum, armigero, connubio junctam. Elizabetham, Johanni Scroggs de Patmer-hall in eodem comitatu, armigero, nuptam. Nubilemque Margaretam virginem, summum sui eximias dotes desiderium relinquens. Dierum Satur et Canitie bona, indubia suscianti, novissima tuba, spe, hic placide in Domino obdormit. Mortalitate exutus, parasceve 15 Aprilis, 1696.*

There was a rectory-house, but no land, in the time of Edward III.

Thomas Heigham, sen. gent. in 1494, granted the advowson to the mayor and commonalty of Thetford, who are the present patrons.

The church of Santon, which for many years had lain in ruins, was re-built at the charge of Thomas Bancroft, gent. and consecrated on the 6th of January, 1628.

On March 8, 1635, Richard Kendal was presented rector. He was turned out by the earl of Manchester, August 10, 1664, for observing the orders of the church, refusing to contribute to the rebellion, swearing, haunting inns, being distempered with liquor, keeping malignant company, and for saying in a sermon, six or seven years before, that the puritans were hypocrites. He was also plundered for the parliament taxes, and, if I mistake not, (says Walker) had

some temporal estate also put under sequestration, and ejected from this, and Santon Downham stipend\*.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 1l. 15s. 1od. Tenthys 3s. 7d. of which it is now discharged, the clear yearly value being sworn at 35l.

In the 5th year of king John, Peter de Clay had a suit with Thomas de Ingalesthorne, about the right of presentation to this church; and in the said year a fine was levied between Peter de Clay, and Adam de Hackbech, of the advowson, wherein Adam had the right conveyed to him. In the 17th of Edward II. a fine was levied between Robert, his son, querent, and Henricus de Staunton, or Santon, one of the itinerant justices, defendant, of messuages in Santon, and the advowson of the church, granted to Hervey for life, remainder to Robert.

In the 11th of Henry VI. sir John Shardelow, knt. died without issue, seised of this advowson, and Thomas Brews, of Sall, esq. was found his cousin, and heir.

In 1764 the Rev. John Cole Gallaway was presented to the rectory of Santon, *alias* Santon-house, by the corporation of the borough of Thetford. Duty done here only once a month.

Opposite to Santon is the town, and seat of Downham, in Suffolk, belonging to lord Cadogan, called Santon-Downham, to distinguish it from Downham, in Norfolk.

Above

\* Walker's sufferings of the clergy, p. 2d. p. 228.

Above Santon-Downham, on the heights, are a lodge, and some trees, seen at a great distance, and appears "as a nosegay in the breast of this country."

STANFORD, wrote in Domesday-book ESTANFORDA, takes its name from the Stony-ford over the river that runs through the town: at the survey we find it in the hands of many of the Conqueror's followers, but the most considerable part was held by Roger, son of Rainard, and was that part, or lordship, which Alstan, a Saxon, held in the reign of the Confessor; the whole was valued at 60s. per annum. In the same village also Roger held land, &c. valued at 20s. per annum, which he claimed by the gift of the king; the whole was one league long, and half a one broad; it paid 15d. gelt when the hundred was taxed at 20s. of the free-men the king and the earl of Norfolk had the soc.

MORTIMER'S MANOR. The lordship held by Roger came soon after into the hands of the earl Warren, who had large possessions in this hundred, and was held of him by the ancient family of Mortimer, of Attleburgh; sir Robert de Mortimer was lord in the reign of Henry II. and sir William had in the 11th of Edward I. the grant of a weekly market here on Tuesday, and a fair for three days, viz. on the eve, the day, and morrow of Whit-Sunday yearly. John de Thorpe held it in the 9th of Edward II. under the Mortimers.

On the division of the estate of the Mortimers, this township came to Cecily, daughter and co-heiress of sir Thomas Mortimer, then the wife of sir John Herling; and on her decease it descended to her son, sir John Herling, who left one daughter and heir, Ann, the wife of sir William Chamberlain,

knight of the garter, who enjoyed it. This Ann had to her second husband, sir Robert Wingfield, comptroller of the household to Edward IV. who died seised of it in right of his wife. In this family it remained till sir Anthony Wingfield, knight of the garter, in the time of Edward VI. conveyed it to Nicholas Bacon, esq. (afterwards lord keeper) with other lands, in West-Tofts, Buckenham Parva, and Sturston. After this it was enjoyed by Edward Coke, esq. who was lord here in the 40th of Elizabeth; then by John Barker, esq. of the Ipswich family, and from thence it came to the Pentneys.

**LANGETOT'S MANOR.** Besides this capital manor of the Mortimers, of the fee of Roger, son of Rainard, there was also another lordship belonging to the same fee, held of the Mortimers. In the time of Henry III. John Langetot held here, and in Buckenham Parva, half a quarter of a fee of sir Robert Mortimer, and he of the earl Warren. By Margaret, daughter and heir of Richard Gegge, it came by marriage to John Austeyn, esq. who conveyed it in the 21st of Edward IV. to sir Robert Wingfield, lord of the manor of Mortimer, with which it continues united at this time.

**MUNDFORD'S FEE** was the next considerable lordship in this town, and was at the survey enjoyed by Hugh de Montfort, held by a free-man, valued at 20s. per ann. but the lord before Hugh had only his protection, and the king had the soc.

**STANFORD'S MANOR.** This fee was divided into two moieties, one of which was enjoyed by Nigell de Stanford, and William de Buckenham, in the reign of Richard I. In 1300 Hubert Hacon was lord; and in the 3d of Edward IV. Richard Gegge, and

and Edmund Hall, of Buckenham Parva, held it of John Rands, alias Reymes, lord of Bodney, and he of the king; and by the marriage of Margaret, daughter and heir of Gegge, it came to John Aysteyn, esq. who conveyed it to sir Robert Wingfield, and from that family it came to sir Nicholas Bacon, and so to sir Edward Coke. In the reign of Charles I. it was sold to Thomas Garrard, esq. and his descendant, sir Nicholas Garrard, bart. of Langford, died seised of it in 1727; it was lately sold to sir William de Grey, knt. lord chief justice of the court of common pleas.

UFFORD'S, or CAMSEY MANOR. The other moiety of Monfort's fee was held in the beginning of the reign of Henry III. by Richard de Burfeld, by the sixth part of a fee, of the honor of Hagenet. In the 20th of Edward III. sir Edmund de Ufford, &c. held half a quarter of a fee of Adam de Clifton; but in the 3d of Henry IV. it was in the monastery of Campsey, in Suffolk, given to that house by Robert de Ufford, earl of Suffolk. On the dissolution of the priory of Campsey it came to the crown, and was given by Henry VIII. together with the manor of Tottington, in the 31st year of his reign, Dec. 9, to sir Robert Southwell; and on May 16, in the 40th of Elizabeth, was purchased by sir Edward Coke, of sir Robert Southwell; and in the reign of Charles I. was sold to Thomas Garrard, esq. sir Nicholas Garrard, bart. died seised of it in 1727, it being joined to Stanford's manor, and so all Mundford's fee was re-united; sir William de Grey is the present lord, by purchase, as above.

Roger Bigot had also at the survey sixty acres of land, &c. held by a free-man in the time of the

Confessor, and Stanard held it of Roger, valued at 2s. 8d. per ann.

This was afterwards held by Walter Gezun, in the 11th of Edward II. and in the 3d of Henry IV. by William Gezun. After this we meet with no other account of it, it being united to some of the other lordships.

William bishop of Thetford had lands belonging to his fee, valued at 6s. 6d. per ann. This was land belonging to his lordship and town of Tofts, which extended into this place.

Rainald, son of Ivo, had also at the survey fourteen acres of land, valued at 2s. 8d. per ann. which came afterwards to the earls of Gloucester, and Clare; this part was annexed very early to some of the other lordships, no account of it being found on any records that we have met with. The leet is in the lord of the hundred.

The road from Bury, and Thetford, to Swaffham, and Walsingham, lies through this village: a modern author\* asserts, that travellers find here one good inn, but this may be found by sad experience to be a mistake.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is built of brick, &c. it has been a regular and neat pile, consisting of a nave, north and south ailes, and a chancel, but is now in a very sordid and ruinous condition, both church and chancel being for the most part unpaved, the timber of the roof greatly decayed, several good windows, or lights, worked up

\* Mag. Brit. Ant. & Nova, in Norff. p. 350.

up, and by no means kept as becomes a place dedicated to the service of God.

The nave is in length about thirty-four feet, and in breadth, including both the ailes, fifty; it is covered with lead, as both the ailes formerly were, of which they were stripped some years past by the church-wardens, &c. at present the south aisle is covered with tile, and the north with reed. These ailes seem to have been additions to the body of the church, erected by some pious persons as chapels, or chantries. The chancel is in length about thirty feet, and twenty in breadth; both on the south and north side of it there have been chapels annexed, or other buildings, as appears from the ruinous heaps of stones which still remain.

At the west end of the nave stands a tower of flint, round as high as the roof of the nave, and from thence octangular, in which hang three bells, one of which is broke.

Here were anciently in this church the arms of the earls of Clare; Beauchamp; earl of Warwick; Mortimer, of Attleburgh; of England; and of Fitz-John.

In the 14th of Edward I. sir William de Mortimer sued the prior of Shouldham for the presentation of this church, and having recovered it, granted it to the prior and convent of Shouldham; and on the 21st of April, 1301, it was appropriated, and the endowment of a vicarage was left to the bishop of Norwich, and his successor, to take place on the death of the present rector. But before this it appears that the prior and convent of Castle Acre had two parts of the tithes of the demesnes of sir Robert de

Mortimer confirmed to them by Simon bishop of Norwich; and we find in 1428 the prior charged for them at 15s.

The vicars were nominated by the bishop of Norwich to the prior of Shouldham, who presented.

In the reign of Henry VI. the monastery of Shouldham was taxed for their spiritualities at thirteen marks, 4s. 5d. the tenths were 17s. 9d. ob. and the vicar was taxed at six marks, 8s. 11d. the tenths 8s. 10d.

In the rector's reply to king James's queries, in 1603, he observes that there were seventy-six communicants.

On the dissolution of Shouldham monastery the patronage of this vicarage, together with the appropriated rectory, came to the crown, and there continued till queen Elizabeth, in the 4th year of her reign, procured an act of parliament to empower her to grant and convey the inappropriate tithes, offerings, glebe lands, &c. of rectories lodged in the crown to several episcopal sees, and for her to take into the right of the crown, on the vacancy of any see, any part of the honors, castles, manors, lands, &c. of the said sees, as should amount to the yearly value of such rectories inappropriate, to be settled on them for ever, by way of an exchange, like that of Glaucus and Diomedes. Thus this inappropriate rectory, with many others, came to the see of Ely, many noble lordships being taken from that see by this plea, after the death of doctor Cox, bishop there in 1581. Yet the good queen, says Dr. Kennet in the History of Appropriations, p. 156. did herein consult and advance the honor of her royal person and government, by

by thinking the old lay-fees were better for the crown, and the ecclesiastical revenues for the church; but how the queen consulted this will be difficult to determine, when even the aforesaid author acquaints us, that upon the third reading of the bill in the House of Lords, all the spiritual lords then present did expressly dissent from it. By this means (says the learned Ridley, in his View of the Civil Ecclesiastical Law, p. 305,) the bishops were brought into obloquy, as though they detained the due provision of the parochial church from it, and are set in a ready way to be overthrown, if every bird have his own feathers again.

This vicarage is valued in the king's books at 5l. 13s. 1d. ob. and is discharged, being returned of the clear yearly value of 18l. per ann.

In 1751 the Rev. Robert Rolfe was presented to this vicarage by the bishop of Ely.

STURSTON lies in the north-east angle of this hundred, and may derive its name from the rivulet that runs on the north side of it, formerly (it is not unlikely) called the Stour, though at present its name is not known. Stour, or Stert, is a name frequently to be met with, most of the counties in England having rivers, brooks, &c. thus denominated.

At the survey it was the lordship of Ralph lord Bainard, a powerful baron, who came into England with the Conqueror; and Luvellus (probably ancestor of the family of Lovel, in Norfolk) held of him six carucates of land, &c. valued at 6os. also two carucates, &c. of land, which fifteen free-men held, valued at 20s. The whole was a league long, half a one broad, and paid 20d. gelt.

The

The lordship was afterwards forfeited by William lord Bainard, on account of his rebellion in the reign of Henry I. and was given by that king to Robert, grandson of Gilbert earl of Clare, whose posterity assumed the name of Fitz-Walter, lord Bainard. It was held of them as of the honor of Castle-Bainard, in London, by the rent of 40d. per ann. castle-guard money. In the 22d of Edward III. it was conveyed by fine from John Clare to sir John Harling; and was held in the 3d of Henry IV. by sir Simon Felbrigg, knt. of the earl of Rutland, in the right of his wife, widow of the lord Fitz-Walter; but Robert Dey, gent. of Sturston, died in 1516 possessed of the manor of Sturston, and left only two daughters and co-heirs, Jane, and Elizabeth, between whom it was divided.

After this it came to the Family of Jermyn, of Rushbrook, in Suffolk; and Edmund Jermyn, esq. son and heir of sir Thomas Jermyn, died in the 15th of Elizabeth, without issue, scised of it, and held it of Thomas earl of Sussex.

In the reign of James I. it was sold to Henry Bedingfield, esq. fifth son of sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh, who died lord, and was buried here about 1629, in which family it continued till it was sold by John Bedingfield, esq. of Beeston, about the year 1730, to Mr. Bullock, cousin, and one of the heirs of sir Thomas Colby, bart. who, on a division of the aforesaid sir Thomas's estate, is said to have had about 30,000l. for his share, or part.

Besides the manor before mentioned, Roger Bigot at the survey held sixty acres of land; but this part was also soon after annexed to the lordship aforesaid, as was that part which belonged to Ralph de Tony.

The

The manor-house only now remains, the rest of the village being demolished.

The church is dedicated to the Holy Cross, and stands a little south of the house; it is a small pile, built of flint, &c. about twenty-six feet in length, and fourteen in breadth, covered with tiles; at the east end was formerly a chancel, as appears from the foundation-stones; and at the west end is a low square tower of flint, in a ruinous condition, and open from the top to the bottom.

On the pavement lies a grave-stone inscribed—  
*To Ann the wife of John Bedingfield, gent. formerly a citizen of London, now a grocer in Lynn-Regis, who died Dec. 14, 1677, aged 38 years.*

Against the north wall is a plain stone monument, with this inscription:—*Henricus Bedingfield quintus filius Domini Henrici Bedingfield, militis aurati, defuncti, et Maria uxor Henrici, filia Christiani Catholici, hic dormiunt in Domino, spe firma expectantes carnis resurrectionem et vitam æternam per Jesum Christum Dominum nostrum. An<sup>o</sup> Dom. 1629.*

This church was well endowed, which occasioned its early appropriation to the priory of Dunmow, in Essex, founded by the lords Baynard; for in the beginning of the reign of Edward I. it was in that house, and the prior and convent had a mansion-house, or rectory, endowed with a carucate of land; procurations then were 5s. Synodals, 2s. In 1428 the prior was taxed for his spiritualities here at six marks, and for his temporalities at 16s. 6d.

At the dissolution it was granted to the earl of Sussex, and held of him (as the lordship was) by the Jermyns,

Jermyns, and so came to the Bedingfields, and from them to the Bullocks.

Mr. Blomfield says, "the curate who officiates is allowed 6l. per ann. only."

In 1753 the Rev. Colby Bullock was licensed to this rectory, or curacy, on the presentation of the right honourable the earl of Essex.

WEST-TOFTS joins to the west side of Stanford: *toft* signifies a house, or cottage, and to express the poverty of any person this proverb was used, that he had not *toft*, or *grofts*, that is, house, or land, the adjunct, *welt*, is to distinguish it from other villages of the same name, as Buckenham-Tofts, &c. In Doomsday-book it is wrote Stoffta, and was at that time the lordship of William bishop of Thetford; bishop Ailmar held it in the Confessor's time, valued at 40s. at the survey at 60s. and was held of the bishop by Richard and Elias. The whole town was one league long, and half a one broad, and paid 17d. to the gelt.

CASTON-HALL MANOR. At the survey there were only two lordships, one held by Richard, the other by Elias, of the see then of Thetford, but soon after removed to Norwich. In the reign of Richard I. Adam de Bredeston held a moiety, and after him the Katestuns, or Castons, which family had a lordship here before the 3d of Henry III. In the Castons it remained till sir John de Cafton had two daughters and co-heirs, Elizabeth, married to Robert Carbonel, and Alice, to William Faftolf. In 1393 sir John Faftolf presented as lord to this church; but in the 3d of Henry IV. sir John Carbonel was lord, and held it half a fee of the bishop of Norwich.

In

In 1433 John Berney, esq. of Reedham, died seized of this manor of Caston-Hall; in the family of the Berneys it continued till the reign of Charles I. when it was conveyed to the Jermyns, lords of the other part of the town. In 1682 Henry Jermyn, earl of St. Alban's, was lord; soon after this it was sold to Mr. Vincent, of Little-Buckenham; from him it passed to Robert Partridge, esq. and on his death it descended to his brother, Henry Partridge, esq. whose son, Henry Partridge, esq. of Northwold, was lord. George Nelson, esq. son of George Nelson, esq. of London, lord-mayor in 1766, is the present lord and patron, and has built one of the handsomest seats of its size in Norfolk, ornamented with extensive and beautiful plantations.

**TOFTS MANOR.** This lordship was held in the reign of Richard I. by Adam de Bredeston, and after by the family of the Castons; but in the reign of Edward I. it was divided into two manors, one of which was held by sir Robert de Caston. In the 28th of Edward I. John de Toft held twelve messuages, three hundred acres of land. &c. but in the 3d of Henry IV. Richard Gegge held it; in this family it continued, till by the marriage of Margaret, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Richard Gegge, esq. it came to John Ausleyn, esq. about the reign of Edward IV. It was afterwards conveyed to Thomas Jermyn, and being thus united to his other manor, it continued in that family till it was sold to Mr. Vincent, as is before observed.

**BIGOT'S, OR DORWARD'S MANOR.** This manor contained a moiety of the town, and was probably that part which was held by Elias, of the bishop of Thetford, at the survey, and after by Jeffrey de Melton, father of Peter le Constable, and his son, Reginald,

ginald, dying without issue, it fell to his three sisters and co-heirs; Alice, married to Cokefield; Isabel, to Birston; and Edith, first married to sir Stephen de Astley, and after to Holewell; but John de Cokefield, son of the eldest sister, Alice, seems to have, on a division of the estate, this manor assigned to him. In the 3d of Edward I. sir William Belet, or Bigot, held it; he was valet to Henry III.

In the 5th of Henry VI. three daughters were found to be sisters and co-heirs to their brother, William Bigot, who died without issue; Catherine, the eldest, married Robert Hunt, whose daughter, Isabel, married Thomas Dayrell, who died seised of this manor in 1490; and Thomas Jermyn, esq. on his marriage with Anaflasia Dayrel, became lord of this part. In 1684 we find it in the same family, when Henry Jermyn, earl of St. Albans, presented to the church; but soon after this it was sold to Mr. Vincent, of Buckenham Parva, and by him to Robert Partridge, esq. and so to George Nelson, esq.

How the other two parts of the manor that came to Galyon, and Fox, by the marriage of the co-heirs of Bigot, descended, we cannot say; but John Oliver, of West Tots, died November 23. 1557, seised of it; and in 1572 Edmund Wright, esq. held it; soon after this it came to the Jermyns, and so was united to the other parts.

The prior of Thetford had lands here given him with the manor of Santon, by Thomas Bodney; and on the 7th of August, in the 27th of Elizabeth, the queen, on the humble petition of Henry lord Wentworth, grants to Theophilus Adams, and Thomas Butler, of London, gents. all the lands here belonging to the late priory of Thetford, which were one hundred

hundred acres of land, meadow, and pasture. In the 41st of Elizabeth they were possessed by Edmund Jermyn.

The abbot of Conches was taxed in 1423 for his temporalities here, viz. a mill, &c. at 6s. and the prior of Canterbury, for his spiritualities, at 4s. 6d.

On Monday the 2d of January, 1720, an oaken coffin was found in a moist, springy place, in this town, by some workmen belonging to Mr. Partridge, who were making a ditch to drain the ground; near the place where it was found is a piece of ground (a little east of the church) moated about, where formerly was the seat, or hall, of the Castlons, and perhaps here might have been some neighbouring chapel; it lay S. E. and N. W. and was full of water; in it were the bones of the person interred, and a representation of a face, cut either in jet, or Lancashire coal, with an hole through the upper part of it, and also a blue cypher, which seemed to have been set in a ring, and several blue irregular beads, with a broken golden verrel, which the workmen laid slipped off a small piece of wood like a knitting-sheath; it was broken and bent out-right by them; it probably belonged to some small crucifix; they were in the hands of the late Mr. Thomas Martin.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary, and is a very ancient building of flint-stone, &c. the nave is in length about fifty-four feet, and in breadth, together with the north aisle, twenty-seven feet, and is covered with reed.

On the pavement, near the reading desk, lies a marble grave-stone, with the arms of Partridge:—  
*In a vault under this stone lyeth the body of Robert Partridge,*

*tridge, esq. of Buckenham-House, eldest son of Mr. Henry Partridge, of Lowbrook, in the parish of Bray, in Berkshire; he departed this life Dec. 26, 1710.*

*Proh Dolor! jam virtus sola superflues.*

In the wall on the south side is the place for the holy water, where formerly was an altar. The north aisle is tiled, and not so antique as the nave; it has an ascent at the east end, where was another altar. At the west end of the nave stands a large square tower of flint, coped and embattled with quoins of free-stone, in which hang four bells; the great bell is thus inscribed:—*Virgo coronata, duc nos ad regna beata.*—This tower\* was begun about the end of the reign of Henry VI. or in the beginning of Edward IV. Round the water-table is an account of the benefactors cut in stone, in old characters.

The chancel is of equal height with the nave, and has no arch to separate it, which shews the antiquity of the whole pile; it is covered with thatch, and is in length about thirty-three feet, and eighteen in breadth; there has been a vestry, as appears from the door (which led into it) on the north side. Here lies a marble grave-stone, with a shield of Barwick, and a latin inscription, to Benjamin Barwick, rector 46 years, he died in 1669.

Adjoining lies another marble grave-stone, with the arms of Jermyn:—*Hereunder lyeth the bodies of John Jermyn, late of West-Totis, esq. and also of Thomas Jermyn,*

\* Though it is certain the foundation was laid, and the tower built as high as the water-table, in the reigns above-mentioned, yet it seems not to have been completed till a long time after; for in 1518 William Oliver left to the edifying of the steeple 6s. 8d.

Jermyn, esq. his brother, a pensioner of the bodies of the late king James, and also of king Charles, both of blessed memorie."

Another marble stone is inscribed—*To John Henman, late curate of this parish, and rector of Great Cresfingham, son of Mr. William Henman, of Charing, in Kent, who died March 26, 1730, aged 35.—“Pius filius, fidus amicus, vir eximia eruditio[n]is, eccl[esi]æ decus.”*

In the upper window of the chancel, on the south side, is Cafton's shield; and there were anciently the arms of Wright, Spring, Heigham, Francis, Berney, and Reedham.

In 1603 the rector said that there were 80 communicants in this parish.

In 1773 the Rev. George Wright was presented to this rectory by George Nelson, esq. lord and patron.

This rectory is valued in the king's books at 8l. 6s. 1d. ob. and by the late act of queen Anne is discharged of first fruits and tenths, being valued at 49l. per ann. real value.

Andrew Hook, or Hewke, willed in 1484 to be buried in this church, before the image of the Holy Trinity, and gave to the building of the steeple 30l. John Olyver, by his will in 1482, gave to the steeple 4 marks; both their names are on the steeple.

WEETING, or WETING, lies west of Santon, in the south part of the hundred, where it is divided from Suffolk by the little Ouse. Part of it was given to the monastery of Ely, in the time of king Edgar, by Ethelwold bishop of Winchester; but at the general

H survey

survey, by the Conqueror, this part was then the lordship of William earl Warren. Another part belonged to the Conqueror's own manor of Methwold, then in the custody of William de Noiers, which in the Confessor's time belonged to Stigand archbishop of Canterbury. The whole is there said to be one league and an half in breadth, and paid 14d. gelt, and is wrote Wetinge, that is *Wet-Inge*, a watry meadow, as lying in a bottom, and having a large tract of low ground adjoining to the Ouse, often surcharged with water.—*Blomfield*, folio 477.

Soon after the survey, that part also, which was held by the king, came into the hands of the earl Warren, and the whole town was held of those lords by the ancient and noble family of de Plays, of which family was Hugh de Plays, who lived in the reign of king Stephen, and sir Ralph de Plays, between whom and the burgesses of Thetford there was a suit about common-pasture in Croxton.

This family continued lords, and Giles de Plays being knighted, was in the 22d of Edward I. summoned as a baron to attend the king on the first of September at Portsmouth, in order to sail into Gascoigne to recover his inheritance, and the said sir Giles died in 1303.

Richard, son of sir Giles, held two parts of this manor, the other part being in the prior of Broomhill, with a fishery here. In the 25th of Edward III. Richard his son was lord, and died beyond sea in the 34th of the said king, leaving Mary his widow, the daughter of sir Walter de Norwich, and John his son, of the age of 18 years. In the 40th of Edward III. the said John was a knight. In the 5th of Richard II. he lent the king 20l. towards his wars, and in the 9th

of

of that king attended John duke of Lancaster in his expedition into Spain; and died in the 13th year of the same king. The said sir John was the last heir male of this family, leaving only one daughter, Margaret, married to sir John Howard, ancestor to the duke of Norfolk. His will is dated on Thursday before the feast of St John Baptist, 1385. at Ocle-magna, in Essex, and was proved on the 16th of July, 1389. " He bequeaths his body to be buried in the priory of Broomhill, to which house he gives his whole suit of vestments, a cup and thurible of silver, two phials, an incense-boat, and an osculatory of silver gilt; to the prior and convent of Walsingham his red vestment, and ten marks of silver; to the prior and convent of Broomholm his black vestment, and ten marks of silver; to the abbess and convent of Marham, to the prioress and convent of Wykes, to the prioress and convent of Heningham, to the prioress and convent of Thetford, and to the prior and convent of Ingham, 25l. viz. to each house 100s. sterling; to the repair of every church in his patronage 40s. to the church of St. Mary at Feltwell, that of Toftree, Cheleswoth, and Stansted-Montfychet, 4l. viz. to each 20s. To sir William, parson of the church of Knapton, 20l. in silver. To sir John Lincoln, clerk, Simon Barret, sir John, vicar of Wyndesore, sir William, parson of the church of St. Mary of Weeting, sir John Hoo, his chaplain, and John Saustin, 30l. of silver, viz. to each 100s. To all the houses of friars mendicants in the county of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, five marks each. To Joan, his wife, all his wardrobe, and all his silver vessels, with all his other utensils and ornaments belonging to his house, not before bequeathed, with all his other goods and chattels in his manors of

" Knapton, Tostree, and Chelesworth. To sir William Beauchamp, and sir John Marmion, knts. to each a silver cup with a cover, to be made new, weighing 10lb. in gross; to sir Stephen Hales, John de Burgh, Richard de Sutton, knts. and Edmund Gurney, to each of them a new cup to be made of silver, with a cover, each of the weight of 10 marks in gross. To his son, John Howard, all his armour and furniture of war; to the prisons of Newgate, and Ludgate, in London, Norwich, Colchester, Hertford, and Cambridge, 6l. viz. 20s. to each, to be distributed among the prisoners there, and the residue of his goods and chattels (after his debts are paid, and legacies are discharged) to be applied as his executors shall see most expedient, for some priest to pray for his soul, &c."

Sir John Howard, by Margaret, daughter and heir of sir John de Plays, had a son, John Howard, esq. who dying on a journey to the Holy Land, in 1410, left Elizabeth, his daughter and heir, married to John Vere, earl of Oxford, whose grandson, John earl of Oxford, dying without issue, this manor fell to his three sisters and co-heiresses; Elizabeth, married to sir Anthony Wingfield, of Letheringham, in Suffolk, Dorothy, to John Neville, lord Latimer, and Ursula, married to sir Edward Knightley, which Ursula dying without issue, one part of the town was vested in the lord Latimer, and the other in the Wingfields.

In 1558 sir Robert Wingfield, son and heir of sir Anthony, had livery of his moiety, which was divided into many parcels by him and his heirs.

About the end of queen Elizabeth's reign the Wingfields sold the remaining part of their moiety to Thomas Wright, esq. and this was held by his descendants,

scendents, the Wrights of Kilverston, till about 1730, when it was sold to Mr. Henry Cocksfedge, of Thetford.

The lords Latimer held not their moiety so long. In 1572 Thomas Dobbs, gent. enjoyed it. Soon after it was conveyed to George Fowler, esq. of Broomhill, who was lord in the 26th of Elizabeth, and died in 1613 (as appears from the register) lord and patron of both Weeting, and his grandson, George Fowler, conveyed the right of patronage of both the churches in this town to the master and fellows of Gonville and Caius college in Cambridge, and for certain considerations tied this manor with the annual payment of 100l. to the said college. After the Fowlers it was held by the Tyrrells, and from them it passed to the lord Allington.

BROOMHILL, or BROMEHILL PRIORY, stood about a mile south-east of the town, in the parish of Weeting, on the north side of, and very near to the present farmhouse, called Broomhill-house, which arose out of the ruins of the said priory, where are many foundations of old walls, &c. to be seen, as is the scite of the conventional church, which was a long narrow building. Here several stone coffins have been dug up within a few years. As the laity were superstitiously fond of being buried (in that age) in conventional churches, so no doubt many considerable persons were here interred, besides the Plays, the founders and patrons of it. It was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. Thomas the martyr, archbishop of Canterbury, for canons regular, of the order of St. Augustine, and founded by sir Hugh de Plays, in or about the reign of king John.

In the 7th of Henry III. a fair was granted to the prior, &c. to be held on the 7th of July, the translation-day of Thomas Becket, and in the following year the prior is said to have a market here, of both which he was disseised by the duke of Lancaster, who afterwards granted them to the corporation of Thetford, who now are lords of the fair.

The common seal, as affixed to a deed dated in the priory of Broomhill, on Thursday the feast of the translation of St. Thomas the martyr, in the year 1331, and 5th of Edward III. was in the hands of the late Mr. Thomas Martin, of Palgrave, and is oblong, of green wax, representing (as it seems) the mitre of a bishop, over it a crescent, and under it a star.

William Barlow, alias Finch, occurs in 1525, and was the last prior. He was first a canon regular of St. Osith, in Essex, prior of Tiptre, and Lees, in Essex, Haverford-west, in Pembrokeshire, and of Bisham, in Berkshire, rector of Cressingham Magna, in Norfolk, and afterwards bishop of St. Asaph, St. David's, Bath and Wells, and Chichester.

The founder endowed this house with a moiety of the manor of Weeting, and in the 3d of Edward I. the prior was returned as lord of the same, and with the moiety of the town of Croxton. Sir Richard de Plays, in or about the year 1349, gave them the rectory of Croxton, which was appropriated in 1401. Several persons were afterwards liberal benefactors.

Richard II. in the 9th year of his reign, gave them the church of Abingdon, in Northamptonshire; and in the 15th year of that king they had licence to hold the aforesaid manor of Feltwell in mortmain; they also had the advowson of Mundford in 1428.

The

The whole tax of their spiritualities and temporalities in the said year was 38l. 1s. 6d. Tenthys 3l. 16s. 1d. ob.

This priory fell before the general dissolution by a bull of pope Clement VII. dated May 14. 1528, and on the 16th of September following it was accordingly suppressed, and John de Vere, earl of Oxford, then patron, released the said priory the same year to cardinal Wolsey, to whom the king had granted it on December 30, with the manors of Broomhill, Croxton, &c. a mill in Weeting, and 20l. rent issuing out of the manor of Weeting, the rectory and advowson of Croxton, together with all the messuages, lands, and tenements belonging to the said priory, lying in Broomhill, Weeting, &c. in Norfolk, and in Barnham by Thetford, Ickworth, and Mildenhall, in Suffolk. But soon after, on the cardinal's præmunire, the said grant was re-assumed, and on his attainder all the aforesaid premises were granted January 2, in the 23d of Henry VIII. to the master and fellows of Christ's College in Cambridge, by way of exchange, for the manor of Royden in Essex, and Hertfordshire.

A modern author calls this a monastery of Benedictines, and asserts that Henry VIII. sold the scite and lands to sir Thomas Woodhouse, of Waxham, but with what justice may be seen above. Of a like mistake is the author of *Antiquitates Britannicæ* guilty, who observes, that the king suppressed this house on account of the crimes and demerits of the prior and canons, proved on them before the bishops of Rochester, Salisbury, and Norwich, and declared them in 1524 forfeited to the exchequer, with all their revenues and farms, and that the master and fellows of St. John's college, in Cambridge, obtained of the king and the pope the said priory and its revenue:

H 4 and

and under the same charge lies Fuller\*, in saying the exchange between the college and the king was in the reign of Edward VI.

In the reigns of queen Elizabeth, and James I. the Fowlers, who had a considerable estate in Weeting, held this by lease from Christ's college. The Fowlers were a family of good account.

Afterwards this farm was held by the Pecks, Shadwells, and Tookes, and Thomas Shadwell, esq. poet-laureat, is said to be born here; it is at present held by lease of the aforesaid college.

Mr. Stephens, in his additions to the *Monasticon Anglicanum*, observes, that there is no mention made there of this priory, and Mr. Willis gives us only the name of the last prior.

**WEETING ALL SAINTS.** This church stands at the north-east part of the town; it has a nave, a north aisle, covered with lead, and a chancel that is thatched, all built of flint-stones, boulder, &c. At the west end of the nave stands an old wooden shed, or belfry, in which hang four bells. The nave is about forty-one feet in length, and thirty-three in breadth, including the north aisle; the roof of the nave is of oak, and the principals are supported by figures of religious persons, now much defaced: at the west end of the nave, on the pavement, are two bells, removed hither on the fall of the church of St. Mary. The chancel is in length about twenty-nine feet, and seventeen in breadth. On the pavement, at the west end, lies a grave-stone, inscribed to Francis Hobman, rector of both the churches of Weeting, and died

\* History of Cambr. p. 91.

died anno Dni. 1669, aged 74: he gave to Caius college 100l. for such uses as that society should think proper.

Near the centre of the pavement lies a marble stone, with Wright's arms impaling Smith, inscribed —*To Anna Maria Wright, late wife of Deputy John Wright, of London, woollen-draper, and daughter of Nathaniel Smith, of Barnwell, in the county of Northampton, esq. who died May 19, aged 62. Also Mr. John Wright, citizen and merchant-taylor, of London, who died September 14, 1728, aged 83 years.*

On the said pavement lies also an old grave-stone, with a cross floral in a circle on the summit of a staff, in memory, most likely, of some rector; and near the south wall, at the east end of the chancel, is another old grave-stone, with a cross pattee cut on the head of a staff, probably in memory (it being the insignia) of a knight templar.

Crosses were very anciently fixed, or carved, on monuments, or grave-stones: amongst the laws of Kenneth, king of Scotland, who flourished about 840, we meet with this: "Esteem every sepulchre, or grave-stone, sacred, and adorn it with the sign of the cross, which take care you do not so much as tread on;" but the fathers for that very reason forbid it to be placed on any grave-stones.

On the summit of the east window of the chancel is this shield:—Azure, three ducal crowns, or, St. Edmund, and the East-Angles.—And below it Plays' arms. This window is ornamented in many places with leopards heads.

In

In the middle of the chancel, on the south side, is Howard's shield. Weaver tells us, that in the south window of the church of Weeting St. Mary was the portraiture of sir John Howard, who married Margaret, the heir of Plays, in a supplicant posture; on his furtout, the arms of Howard; by him also the said arms, and those of Plays.

In the rector's answer to king James's queries, in 1603, he observes that there were 104 communicants here.

William Peters, A. M. rector of Weeting All Saints, was buried here Sept. 16, 1708, and left an estate at Cherry-Hinton, in Cambridgeshire, to Caius college, for exhibitions to poor scholars.

This church is a rectory, valued in the king's books at 10l. 8s. 1d. ob. first fruits gl. 7s. 11d. 1q. tenths 1l. 9d. 3q.

WEETING St. MARY. This church stood in the south part of the town, and is now in ruins, by the fall of a tower on it, about eighty years past; it was the neatest, the most regular, and modern church of the two, built of flint, chalk, &c. and consisted of a nave about thirty-five feet in length, and (including the south aisle) thirty-one in breadth, having on that side three neat arches, supported by pillars, formed of four pilasters united together. At the west end of the nave stood an handsome square tower of flint, with quoins, &c. of free-stone, as appears from what is still remaining; the nave is divided from the chancel by a neat and lofty arch of stone-work, still standing; the length of the chancel was about thirty-three feet, and the breadth eighteen; the greatest part of the

the walls, both of the church and chancel, is still standing, but the roof is totally decayed and gone. —

On the area of the chancel, now overgrown with nettles, &c. lies a marble grave-stone, with the arms of Tooke, impaling Smith, and this:—*H. S. S.  
Magdalena, Jacobi Tooke de Bromhill, gener: conjux  
piissima, Jan. 29, anno Dom. 1678, ætat. suæ 32,  
neon Johannes Jacobi filius, infans, Aug. 27, anno  
Dom. 1677.*

At the east end of this chancel, on brick-work, lies a stone, with the arms of Coppinger, impaling Kirkham:—*Gregory Coppinger, of Broomehill-House,  
died the 10th of February, 1724, aged 65 years. Elizabeth,  
his wife, buried the 19th of July, 1702, aged  
40 years.*

The church-yard here is kept inclosed, and is still used by the parishioners for a place of burial.

There were anciently in this church these arms: France; England alone; East-Angles; Ely abbey; Clare; Fitz-Walter; Marshall; Howard, Vere, and Bardolph; Carleton, Mohun, &c.

This church (or rather a portion of tithes in this parish) was given, as we read in Dugdale's Monasticon, to the priory of Huntington, in 1147, and 6s. per ann. in Feltwell, by Hugh Plays; for that religious house was taxed for its portion in St. Mary Weeting, in 1428, at eight marks, and the rector paid it to the said priory.

When Norwich Doomsday-book was wrote, the Lady Alice de Plays was patroness of this church, and the rector had a house and forty acres of land.

In

In 1309, July 12, Edward II. as guardian of the minor of sir Giles de Plays, presented to this church.

In 1438 here were one hundred and forty acres of glebe land.

In 1603 there were eighty-two communicants in this parish.

The master and fellows of Gonville, and Caius College, in Cambridge, are the present patrons; and since September 17, 1651, this church hath been held united with Weeting All Saints.

This church is valued in the king's books at 81.  
1s. 8d. first fruits 7l. 5s. 6d. and tenths 16s. 2d. but  
by the last act of queen Anne it is discharged from  
these, being sworn at 45l. per ann. clear value.

Several of the family of Fowler are buried here.

In a close adjoining to the east end of the church-yard of Weeting All Saints are to be seen great and venerable ruins of a large square castle, built of flint-stone, &c. and has been moated round; at one corner is a rising hill, where probably stood the keep; this castle was the seat of the family of de Plays.

About two miles eastward of the town, and in this parish, are those entrenchments, or holes, called Grime's-Graves, of which we have treated in the account of the hundred, and between the town and that place are several tumuli.

On the west side of the town, from the edge of the fen, arises a bank, or ditch, which runs some miles, and parts Weeting from Wilton and Feltwell, called the

the Foss; and in the fields of Weeting, north of the town, is a green way, called Walsingham-Way, used (as it is said) by pilgrims in their way to the Lady of Walsingham, a madona of such high repute, that the Galaxia, or Milky-Way, was called by the people of those parts the Walsingham-Way, as pointing to that angle; here was formerly a stone cross, now broke into two pieces, commonly called the stump crosses.

Weeting is at this day one of the favorite spots for coursing: at the coursing matches annually held at Swaffham, by the noblemen and gentlemen in that neighbourhood, the greyhounds are all matched like race-horses at Newmarket, and bets laid, as upon the turf.

The right honorable Charles Henry Coote, bart. earl of Montrath, of the kingdom of Ireland, and one of his majesty's most honorable privy counsellors, has considerable property in Weeting, and has built a large house, in which he now resides. His lordship has also inclosed a park, made many plantations, roads, and other valuable improvements, which adds much to the beauty of this country. The village lies near the road from Lynn, twenty-three miles, to Brandon, one, and London, seventy-nine.

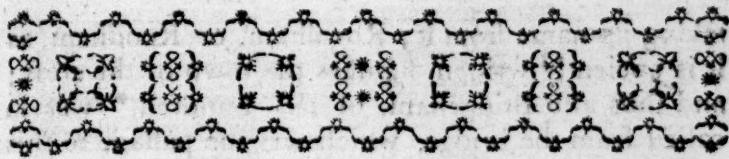
In 1773 the Rev. Charles Smith was presented to the rectory of Weeting St. Mary, with All Saints, by Caius College, Cambridge.

KEBURN. Under the land of the earl Warren, and in this hundred, a town of this name occurs in the book of Doomsday; one Roger in the Confessor's time had half a carucate of land here, held by two free-

free-men, valued at 9s. In the bounds of Broomhill, on a green near to the Ouse-Parva, where formerly Broomhill fair was kept, many foundation-stones have been dug up, and some years past a large key, like an old church key; some grounds here are called by the name of Keburn at this day: this has induced us to fix the scite of this place here, otherwise now lost and unknown.

The lesser Ouse here divides the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, over which river is a stone bridge at BRANDON. This town had formerly a weekly market on Thursday, now discontinued, and has three annual fairs, viz. Feb. 14, June 11, and Nov. 11. A considerable trade is carried on here by water to Lynn, &c. and by the post road to London, where rabbits and eggs are sent in abundance. Here is a good inn, and post-office, and the town itself is rather handsome than otherwise. Mr. James Denton has lately built a good house on the north side of the river.





THE  
HISTORY  
OF  
NORFOLK.

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Hundred of GUILTCROSS,

Or GILT CROSS,

TAKES its name from some remarkable cross that was gilt, which either stood in it, or was to be seen in great part of it; though Mr. Neve observes, it was spelled anciently Gydecross, from some cross that was a guide to travellers; and Mr. Blomefield was of opinion, "it might be Roudham-cross, which at that time was seen in great part of this hundred, and was certainly a very remarkable one, that town

A taking

taking its name from it; Rowdham, or Roodham, as it is anciently written, signifies the town of the cross; and thus also Bridgeham, in *this* hundred,\* was so called from the bridge, which was the passage to this cross, which, with the road, became remarkable from being the common way by which pilgrims took their journey out of Suffolk, and other parts of the country, to our Lady of Walsingham."

This hundred is about ten miles from east to west, and four and a half from north to south, and contains thirteen towns, all which are in Rockland deanry, and Norfolk archdeaconry; it was in the Confessor's hands as belonging to the manor of Kenninghall, and came to the Conqueror, who held it at the survey, as belonging to the same, it being then worth 20*s.* a year, the soc of the whole hundred belonging thereto, all which was committed to earl Godric's care, who had it but a little while, for the Conqueror gave it with Kenninghall, Buckenham, Snettisham, and Wymondham manors, to William de Albaniaco, or Albany, who came into England with him, all which were to be held by the service of being the king's butler on the coronation-day. In this family it continued till Hugh de Albany, or D'Aubigny, died seised in 1243, leaving it in dower to Isabel, his wife, daughter of William earl Warren and Surrey, and foundress of Marham abbey: but as this hundred hath continually gone, and still remains with the manor of Kenninghall, we have no occasion to trace its owners any further in this place.

In 1286 it was found by a jury, that the king had more right of pleading in his county court pleas of Withernam,

\* Roudham and Bridgeham are in Shropham hundred.

## GUILTCROSS.

3

Withernam †, and of taking cattle, than the hundreds of Freebridge, Smithdon, Guiltcros, and Shropham, had in their hundred courts; upon which Hugh de Albany being asked, Whether he had any charters of liberty? answered, That he knew not, his deeds being deposited in Wymondham priory, for which reason he desired time to search: the court ordered him to find security to answer the king all arrears, from the time of his coronation; upon which Hugh surrendered seisin of the liberties to the king, and the king deferred amercing him for damages till he had spoken with the earl Warren. This gives opportunity to observe, that the king was then present in the court, and judgment was given by him, though in his own cause, which is directly contrary to the opinion of divers great men: and this assertion may be further proved by a record in the 25th year of this king, where, in an appeal for felony, the entry on the roll is thus: " And because our sovereign lord the king was absent, and there being but few of his council there, they which were present would not give judgment for a duel, nor do any thing else in the absence of the king, or the major part of his council;" so that we see generally the king was present, or if not, there was no judgment passed, unless the greater part of his council were there.

In 1249 return was made that Isabel, countess of Arundel, held 40l. a year in land in this hundred, that her marriage was in the king's gift, and that the hundred was worth seven marks a year, and had not liberty of return of writs, nor other liberties, as some

+ Withernam, is a writ to empower a sheriff to take any goods that are distrained and carried out of his county, and restore them to the owner, he being not able to do it by a replevin.

hundreds had, and that it paid yearly 40d. to the king's use ‡.

In 1274 Henry le Noble, sheriff of Norfolk, lett Guiltcross and Brothercross hundreds for 42s. a year, which used to be lett at 15l. this was when the king had the marriage of Isabel aforesaid, or when he seized some of her estates, for her bold, but true speech, that she made unto him, which you may see in Dugdale's Baronage, vol. 1. fol. 121. In 1286, when Roger de Montealt held it, it was then valued at 13l. per ann. out of which he paid the king 40d. yearly; and the liberties allowed to the hundred, in an eire at Norwich, were these, sc. view of frank-pledge, assize of bread and beer, a gallows, and waif. In 1537 it was worth 6l. 13s. 4d. a year.

In the court book of this hundred, in 1578, which is among Mr. Neve's collections, we find the following manors are held of it, by certain yearly payments, viz. the manors of Uphall, and Bokenham's, in Garboldisham; of Furneaux, in Middle Harling; of Seckford's, in West Harling; Mainwarring's, Fawconer's, and Felbrigg's, in East Harling; Broomhall, and Semere's, in Blo-Norton; Madekyn's manor, in Quidenham, and Hockham's manor there; Marshall's, Grey's, and Beckhall, in Banham; Eshawe, or College manor, in Rushworth, and Boldham's manor there, which also belonged to the college; Uphall, and Wretham's, in Gasthorpe; Clarke's tenement, in South Lopham, and Porter's, in Riddleworth; Styward's and Russell's tenements there; Goodson's tenement, in North Lopham; with divers other lands; all which do suit and service to the hundred

<sup>‡</sup> Because all these privileges belonged to the king's liberty, which were afterwards granted to the duke of Norfolk.

hundred court at Kenninghall every three weeks, each suit being valued at 2s.

The tenement, or manor, of John Church, of Garboldisham, and Pakenham's manor, in Garboldisham, owe suit every three weeks, or 2s. each suit.

The hundred court was always kept at Kenninghall every three weeks, but on account of that market's being dispersed, it is removed, and kept at Market Harling.

It is bounded on the east by Diss hundred; on the south by the river Ouse, that parts Norfolk and Suffolk; on the west by Thetford; and on the north by Shropshire hundred, which is divided from it by the river that runs from Quidenham Mere to Thetford. The superior liberty, as to the game, and many other privileges, belong to his grace the duke of Norfolk, as lord paramount of the hundred, all which is in his peculiar liberty and jurisdiction, called the duke of Norfolk's liberty.

The towns in this hundred are as follow, to which is added the number of votes polled by freeholders resident in each, for knights of the shire, at the general election, March 23, 1768.

	W.	de G.	A.	C.
Banham	-	11	11	14
Blo-Norton	-	1	0	5
Garboldisham	-	13	11	7
Gasthorpe	-	0	0	0
Harling East	-	2	3	5
Harling West	-	0	0	0
Kenninghall	-	4	5	7
Lopham North	-	7	9	9
				Lopham

## HUNDRED OF

Lopham South	-	3	3	6	6
Riddleworth	-	0	0	0	0
Quidenham	-	3	3	6	6
Rushford, with	{	0	0	3	3
Snarehill					
Total		44	45	62	61

*Principal Seats and Houses in this Hundred.*

<i>Garboldisham,</i>	-	{ Crisp Molineux, esq. M. P. for Lynn Regis.
<i>Harling East,</i>	-	— Wright, esq.
<i>Harling West,</i>	-	{ Richard Croftes, esq. member for Cambridge University.
<i>Kenninghall Place,</i>		William Pawlet, esq.
<i>Quidenham.</i>	-	Earl of Albemarle
<i>Shadwell Lodge,</i>		John Buxton, esq.

The half of this hundred, towards Thetford, is champaign, the land being very light and sandy; the other is heavy ground and enclosed; it produces plenty of grain of all kinds, and in the champaign part there are good flocks of sheep; the soil there is chiefly a chalk under the sand.

It pays to the general county rate 12l. 3s. 3d. for a six hundred pound levy, and, with Shropham hundred, constitutes the deanry of Rockland, in the archdeaconry of Norfolk.

BANHAM, wrote in Doomsday-book BENHAM. There were three manors in this town, all which are now united, though each retains its name in the stile of the court, which is Banham, Marshall's, Beck-hall, and Grey's; the customs of which are, that the lands descend to the eldest son; the fines are at the lord's will,

## GUILTY CROSS.

will, it gives a third dower, and the tenants cannot fell timber on the copyhold without the lord's licence, unless to repair their copyhold premisses.

MARSHALL's was the head manor, part of which was owned by the abbot of Ely at the confessor's survey, of whom it was held in the conqueror's time by William de Schoies, L'Escois, or the Scot, who in his own right then held another part and the advowson. At this time the church had thirty acres of land belonging to it; part of this manor Ordar then held of the said William at one carucate, which with the advowson was afterwards given to York abbey, and in the confessor's time was held (together with the manor and advowson of Wilby) by Fader, L'Escois's predecessor. The whole town of Banham was three miles long and two broad, and paid 14d. ob. gelt, or tax, out of every 20s. that was laid on the hundred.

In the time of William II. William de Eschois, for the health of the soul of that king his lord, gave to the monks of St. Mary's abbey, by York walls, the advowson of this church, with a carucate of land here, together with the advowson of Wilby and two parts of the tithes of his demesnes, which were after valued at eight marks per ann. and for that sum lett to the rector and his successors. This pension was after granted by that abbey to their priory, or cell, at Rumburgh in Suffolk, in which it continued until it was dissolved by Cardinal Wolsey, who procured bulls to dissolve this and some other small monasteries, in order to erect two colleges, one at Oxford, and the other at Ipswich; besides those bulls and letters patent that he had obtained of the king, he procured releases of them from the patrons, for the abbot of St. Mary at York released to Thomas Capon, dean of the cardinal's college at Ipswich, all his right in the priory

priory of Rumburgh, and all its possessions lying in Banham, Wilby, Cossey, Bawburgh, and Swaffham, in Norfolk, and in other places in other counties.— This portion was issuing out of his demesne lands in Banham and Wilby, jointly, but yet the whole was paid out of Banham, that rectory being by far the best ; the donation was confirmed by Henry I. and by Everard Bishop of Norwich, and Theobold archbishop of Canterbury. After this the said William sold the manors to Walter Giffard, who gave the advowsons to the abbey of Nuttley, which he had founded in his park at Crendon, near Tame in Buckinghamshire, but it appearing that William de Escois had given them to York abbey before the sale, Giffard's grant had no force. Walter Giffard, son and heir of the aforesaid Walter, sold it to John le Mareschall, whose son, John le Mareschall, was lord in 1276, in which year he brought an action against the abbot of York, in order to recover the advowson, but without success. In 1285, Havise, Widow of John le Mareschall was lady, and had free-warren, view of frank-pledge, assize of bread and beer allowed her to this manor, which was then valued at 40l. per year ; she held it in dower of the inheritance of John le Mareschall a minor, then the king's ward, who died under age. In 1332 Sir Anselm Mareschall, knt. was lord, who held it at the third part of a fee of the earl of Gloucester, and paid 13s. 4d. relief. This Sir Anselm united the manors, for he held the manor which John le Grey, &c. formerly held at one fee of the earl Marshall, he of the earl Warren, and he of the king, and paid forty shillings relief, and the said Sir Anselm, jointly with William de Banham, and his tenants, held half a fee of John de Beck, for which he paid 20s. relief after Sir Anselm's death. William de Morley, marshal of Ireland was lord, who in 1361 granted to Sir John de Harling, and his heirs, free commonage

commonage in Banham for all manner of beasts ; it was after in Havise le Mareschall, wife of Robert de Morley. In 1380 Thomas de Felton, knt. and Joan his wife, had these, and Wilby manor ; Joan held them to her death, which was long after her husband's ; they left two daughters their heiresses, Mary the eldest married to Sir Edmund Hengrave, knt. and Isabel, or Sibill, to Sir Thomas de Morley. In 1401 the said Joan settled them after her death on her two daughters, their husbands and their heirs. In 1415 they were settled in trust for Sibill de Felton, abbess of Berking. These manors remained for some time after in the hands of trustees and feoffees. In 1432 Sir Thomas Morley, knt. conveyed them in fee to William Alnwick, bishop of Norwich, Sir John Tirrel, knt. Sir Ralph Cromwell, knt. and their heirs, and in the same year Thomas Greene, of West-Creeting in Suffolk, released to them all his right in the manors of Marshall and Grey, and the moiety of Beckhall, which extended into Banham, Wilby, Quidenham, Old Buckenham, Winstarthing, and Tibenham, from which time they went with Buckenham castle until they were sold to Thomas duke of Norfolk, in whose family they still continue, the duke of Norfolk being now lord. In 1558, Sir John Tirrel, of Gipping, granted all his right in the manor, with many lands here, to the duke, who gave him Cotton and Bacton manors in exchange.

GREY'S MANOR, at the first survey, belonged to Lessius a freeman, who had a carucate in demesne ; it was William earl Warren's at the Conqueror's survey, and belonged to his castle at Lewes. It went from William the second earl Warren, who died in 1135, to Reginald de Warren, a younger son, whose chief seat was at Wormegay, or Wrongay, in Clackclose, which he had by marrying Alice, daughter and

heires to William de Wormegay. At his death William his son succeeded, who died in 1209, leaving Beatrice his daughter, then widow of Dodo, or Doun-Bardolph, his heir, by which marriage this manor came to the said Doun, who very soon after parted with it to Hugh Bardolph, his cousin: this Hugh was sheriff of Cornwall in the year 1184, one of the king's lieutenants in England, when he was in Normandy in 1186, associate to the bishop of Durham and Ely, to administer justice in the realm during the king's absence in the Holy Land, being in such high esteem with Richard I. that in the third year of his reign (1191) when he was in the Holy Land, and suspected his chancellor, (to whom he had chiefly committed the charge of governing in his absence) he wrote a letter to Hugh Bardolph and others, requiring them, that if the chancellor did not do as he ought, they should take upon them the rule in all things, from which time he was one of the king's justices, and for some years justice itinerant, of whose warlike actions and honors more may be seen in Mr. Dugdale's Baronage, vol. 1. p. 284. He died in 1209, in the fifth year of king John's reign, without issue male, leaving Robert Bardolph, his only brother, his heir, and a widow, who after married John de Brahoſe.— This Robert was a priest, and parson, or rector of no less than thirty churches, an argument of his interest with the pope at that time, who usually granted by way of proviso (as it was called) many rectories to one man, under pretence that the income, over and above serving them, should go towards the expences of the holy war, the darling enterprize of that age.— Robert died in 1224, leaving his inheritance divisible among his five sisters, of which Isolda (as the Latin records) or Odoyne (as the French) the eldest, married Sir Henry de Grey, knt. to whose share this manor, with others, was allotted: by Isolda he had six sons, to the second

second of which he gave this manor, viz. John, some time justice of Chester, progenitor to the Greys of Wilton and Ruthyn; he was a most remarkable man in the time of Henry III. In 1265 he held it of the earl Warren at one fee, and died this year, leaving it to Reginald his son, who in 1277 had free-warren allowed him; he died in 1307, leaving Henry his son and heir, and Roger a younger son by a second wife, from which Henry the Greys of Wilton descended, and from Roger, those of Ruthyn; Roger died in 1352, but long before had parted with this manor, for in 1328 Sir Robert de Morley had an interest in it, if not the fee, and in 1345 Sir Anselm Mareschall was sole lord, and held it united to Mareschall's manor.

BECKALL MANOR was in two parts in the Conqueror's time, the chief of it belonged to Aluric, a free-man, who held it of bishop Osborn, who owned it in the time of king Edward; it had then one carucate in demesne, and woods that would maintain a hundred hogs, the whole of that part being then worth 20s. and 40s. at the survey. The other part was only one soc-man, and his services, of 2s. value, which formerly belonged to Ely abbey; but after the conquest Roger Bigot's ancestors had him.

This manor afterwards came to the crown, for when Henry II, (anno 1175) assed his demesnes, his tenants of Banham were taxed at half a mark.

It was afterwards in the Bigots, and then in the Munchenies, of whom John de Jerpenville held it, who divided it; for William de Banham in 1218 held a good part of it of the said John.

In 1311 John de Beck, of Banham, divided it into so many parts, and each called Beckhall manor, that it is impossible to know how they all went, except the biggest part, to which all the rest were afterwards joined; and that in 1329 was owned by William de Claydon. In 1345 the heirs of John de Claydon, and his tenants of the other part, held a moiety of it of Hugh le Vere, he of the earl Marshal, and he of the king.

The other moiety was now joined to the other manors, sir Anselm le Mareschall having purchased it some time before of John de Beck.

In 1401 John Darlington had it, and from that time till it came to the duke of Norfolk in the time of Henry VIII. and at his attainder it was given to sir Francis Calthorpe, of Ingham. In 1558 William Calthorpe, of Hempstead, had it; after which it soon came to the Norfolk family again, sir John Tirrell releasing it in 1558.

In 1226 Stephen de Ebroic, lord of Wilby, (who held part of the carucate of land in Banham that was given to York abbey, which part always was included in Wilby manor, after he had purchased it of Walter Giffard, who sold the rest to the Marshals,) had a grant for a fair and market in Banham; the market hath been disused time immemorial, but the fair is still kept on St. Barnabas's day.

In 1285 Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, claimed a size of bread and ale in Lopham and Banham; but as to Banham, he acknowledged that it belonged not to him, but to Roger de Montealt, lord of the hundred. It was thought to belong to him on account of Beck-hall manor, which was held of him.

The

The countess of Arundel had liberty of a gallows here in 1256, and Grey's manor was then held of her,

The HAUGH, or HAWE, was part of Beck-hall manor, which was excepted when it was sold, and therefore that passed with Winfarthing manor, in the Munchensies, Veres, and other families that owned it; it was no manor, but was originally part of the demesnes of Beck-hall, and contained 220 acres of wood and pasture, with a messuage thereon built; it abutts east and south on Banham-heath.

In 1311 sir Hugh le Vere, then owner of it, purchased of Richard le Forester, of Hailing, a parcel of land of Over-haugh, in Banham, under the said Hugh's wood, called Banham-haugh, extending itself from the common pasture lying at the head of the said land, and was only ten feet broad, it being in order to inclose the Haugh.

This came with Winfarthing manor to the Norfolk family, and was farmed under them by sir Henry Dye, knt. in 1607; it was afterwards sold off, and hath continued in private hands ever since.

BANHAM-HEATH is a large common, containing above twelve hundred acres of land, lying in the parishes of Banham and Winfarthing, and in ancient evidences is divided into three parts: the whole that lies in Winfarthing, is called Winfarthing Chace; the part that joins to Tibenham, Carleton, and New Buckenham, is called Banham Outwood, and contains 300 acres; the part that joins to Banham is called Banham-green, and contains 300 acres more, on all which the tenants and inhabitants of Banham and Winfarthing only have right of commonage, and are intercommoners, each having the drift of their

separate parts, and can common all manner of great cattle, as well as sheep, at all times of the year.

In the time of James I. viz. 1618, there was a long suit between the townsmen of Banham and the townsmen of Tibenham, concerning the right of commonage upon this heath, the substance of which was this: the townsmen of Tibenham claimed an original right of commonage on the three hundred acres, called Banham Outwood, in Banham, in right of their copyhold lands and tenements, held of the manor of Tibenham, and common of vicinage on Banham-green, there being no fences, or ditches, between Banham Outwood and Banham-green; but upon the trial the townsmen of Tibenham were cast, and paid 30l. damages and costs, it being found by the jury, that the lord of Tibenham manor, and his tenants, had no original right on Banham Outwood, nor common of vicinage on Banham-green; and whereas there were divers tenants of the manor of Tibenham that claimed right of commonage for set numbers of sheep going on this heath, by the grants of divers of the former lords of the manor of Banham, all which commonages were held by copy of court-roll of the manor of Banham in fee, by a fine of 10s. paid at every death, and two hens a year for the pasturage of every six score sheep thereon, John Clark, of Banham, (in behalf of the parish of Banham) brought his action against Matthew Buxton, of Tibenham, for feeding sixty sheep and one ram on the heath, according to the grant of the lord of the manor of Banham, made to the owner of his tenement, called East Angles, in Tibenham, and recovered damages and costs, it being found by the jury, that such customary pasturage, and commonage, was not to be demised, neither was it demisable by copy of court-roll, by the lord of the manor of Banham,

Banham, to any customary tenant whatever; upon which all the commonages of this nature were set aside. An exemplification of the whole, under seal, dated February 13, 1625, now lies in Banham town chest.

In 1611 there were three separate juries, one for each manor, and the leet belonged to the manor, the leet-fee being 3s. 4d.

This town is now assessed at 1439l. 5s. to the land tax. In 1603 it had 400 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are 126 dwelling-houses, and 650 inhabitants. It is a pretty village, standing round a small green, the church being on its west side.

This rectory hath a good parsonage-house joining to the west side of the church-yard, and thirty-seven acres, two rods of glebe; it is charged in the king's books 9l. 3s. 6d. 1q.

In March, 1310, sir James de Salucijs, son of the noble sir John de Salucijs, was instituted by proxy to this rectory, at the command of R. abbot of Messendene, in Lincolnshire, executor of the *apostolic indulgence* granted to the said sir James by Pope Clement V.

In 1520, October 26, Rowland Lee, doctor of the decrees, was instituted rector. In 1534 he was consecrated bishop of Litchfield and Coventry, and so vacated this living.

In 1577, July 18, queen Elizabeth presented, from which time it hath been in the crown, and so continues.

In 1772 the Rev. Thomas Kerrich was presented to this rectory by the crown.

The Tindals, alias Kendals, had a very good estate here, to which family Mr. Cambden, claren-  
cieux, granted arms in July, 1611. The heir male  
of the family is Mr. Robert Tindal, who lately sold  
the estate at Banham, and lies at Rattlesden, in Suf-  
folk.

The family of the Kendals, Clarks, Leches, and  
Colbys, were all considerable owners in this parish in  
1483, and none of them are yet extinct.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin,  
and is a regular building, forty-five yards long, hav-  
ing a nave, two aisles, chancel, south porch, and  
vestry, all leaded, a square tower with a spire of  
wood covered with lead on its top, and in it five  
bells, a clock, and saints bell.

In the south aisle is an altar-tomb,—*For Mr. Robert Clark, who died June the 18th, 1685, aged 59.*

*John Bringloe, gent. died here March 9, 1683;—  
John, his eldest son, July 3, 1714, aged 60 years;—  
Also Awdry, wife of the last John, Jan. 26, 1713.*

In the north aisle, at the east end, is a chapel, or  
chantry, divided from the church by screens, hand-  
somely painted; in a niche in the wall lies a knight  
in armour, (founder of the church, if not, of this aisle  
at least, though we are apt to think the former, be-  
cause the whole building appears as if built at one  
time) it is oak carved; there is no inscription remain-  
ing, but yet it is plain that it was made for Sir Hugh  
Bardolph, knt. some time lord of Grey's manor, in  
this town, who died in 1203; for under his left arm  
is a large cinquefoil, which is the badge of that fa-  
mily; and in the adjoining window are his arms,  
impaling

impaling Morley, which induces us to think he married one of that family. This sir Hugh was with Richard I. at Messina, in Sicily, being one of those who on the behalf of that king undertook that the articles of peace and friendship, which were then agreed on betwixt Richard I. and Tancred king of Sicily, should be firmly kept, in order to carry on the holy wars, as they were called. This tomb is very antique and perfect.

The windows of the chapel, and those of the church, were adorned with the following arms of the lords of this town, and others related to them, many of which now remain:—Marshall, Bardolph, Ufford, Erpingham, Brotherton, and Clare; besides these there were the arms of Morley, Kerdeston, Caily, Bawent impaling arg. a cross ingrailed az. Marshall impaling Tirrel; Tirrell single; Bassingbourne and Gawdy; Clare impaling Plantagenet.

In the east window is a broken effigy of Bardolph.

This chapel belonged to the lords of the manors, who founded a chantry priest to sing for the dead in it.

Opposite, in the south aisle, was another chapel, heretofore belonging to the guilds of the Holy Trinity, and St. Mary, in this town, to both which William Gye was a benefactor in 1479.

In the chancel, in a north window, was an effigy in a religious habit, with a broken scroll from his mouth.

Here

Here was a parcel of land given in the time of Henry VII. to find lamps before Trinity altar, called Lamp Lond.

The ancient names of the streets are, Cherchegate, Tvecknald, Freschenale, Westmor, Hardwick, and Westgate.

The crosses were, Smalmor-croſſ, white-croſſ, Atte Borghe, and Alforth-croſſ. Seynt Maries-Meer, and Banham-Gapp, are often mentioned in evidences.

In 1429 Peter Payn, of Banham, gave to West-acre prior 6s. 8d. to the canons there 13s. 4d. to the brethren of every house of friars in Norwich 10s. to say 100 masses for his soul; to each house of the friars at Thetford 10s. for 100 masses for his soul; to the prioress of the nuns at Thetford 6s. 8d. and to the convent 6s. 8d. to the chapel of the Blessed Virgin at Thetford 6s. 8d. to the repairing St. Peter's church 6s. 8d. He ordered to be buried in Banham church-yard, and gave 40s. to be divided among the poor at his burial; to every lazer-house at Norwich 3s. 4d. to the chapel of the Blessed Virgin at Buckenham 13s. 4d. to mend Hardwick Way, in Banham, 40s. and 40s. more to set up a croſſ at the end of it, where the way parts.

Mr. Kidman had two brasses which came off a stone in this church, containing inscriptions of the same purport, one in Latin, the other in English, viz.

*Hic jacet Dna. Elizabetha Mounteneye, quondam prioressa, hujus loci, que obiit xx<sup>o</sup>, die mensis Aprilis, anno Dom. MCCCC<sup>o</sup>. xviii<sup>o</sup>. cuius aie: propicietur Deus.*

Praye

*Praye for the sowle of Dame Elizabethe Mounteney,  
some time prioress of this place.*

It hath occasioned much surmise how this inscription should be true, when there was never any priory in this place, but the mystery lies in the impropriety of the wording the inscription, for the words of this place do not refer to her being prioress, but to herself, she being born here, where her family for many generations had a good estate, and afterwards removed to Wilby, for she was prioress of the monastery of nuns, and of St. George the Martyr at Thetford. In 1498, the 15th of September, the bishop confirmed the election.

In 1631 Thomas Canne, only surviving feoffee of the freehold town-lands of Banham, renewed the feoffment to four feoffees, settling lands on them, and their heirs, "for the profit and advantage of all the inhabitants of the town of Banham for ever."

In 1544 Henry Cotesley, or Cossey, clerk, rector here, settled a messuage, called the Guild-hall, (which was a copyhold on Grey's cum Beckhall manor) on Edward Colby, and Thomas Canne, who were to hold it to this intention and use, viz. to keep the obit of the said Henry in the church of Banham, and to cause mass to be celebrated for him. They held it till 1549 for that use, and then it fell to the lord by virtue of the statute, who seized it accordingly, and then granted it to divers feoffees, who were to hold it "to the use and profit of all the copyhold tenants of Banham manor, inhabiting in Banham," upon condition, "that the lord of the manor, and his heirs, by himself, his servants, officers, or deputies, shall for ever have liberty to hold and keep his courts and leet for the said manor, in the said messuage, with free ingress,

gress, egress, and regress, for all the tenants to do their business at such courts, without the contradiction, or molestation of any one."

The feoffees also hold by copy of court-roll of the said manor a parcel of ground, with a house thereon built, being twenty-seven feet broad, and thirteen feet long.

Here was a small oratory, or hermitage, at a place called Stonebridge, the foundation of which may still be seen.

**BLO-NORTON, or NORTON,** called Blow-Norton, corruptly for Norton Bel'eau, as it is anciently spelled, which signifies the north town upon the fair water, or river on which it is situated, and by which it is divided on its south part from Suffolk.

It had four distinct manors in the conqueror's time, the first of which belonged to William earl Warren, and was held by Fulcher under him, of his castle of Lewes, and lay in Kenninghall Soken, before the earl had it; this was afterwards called Broome-hall manor, and was held of the earl Warren's castle at Acre by the service of the fourth part of a fee, which service descended with that castle and honor; it was after held of Tatehale barony.

The second was held as a distinct manor in the confessor's days, and in the conqueror's belonged to Alsius, who then added it to his manor of Lopham, as a beruite; from him it became part of the estate of Roger Bigot, under whom, at the survey, Alured an Englishman held it; it was given very early by the Bigots to the Broomes, and so became part of Broome-hall

hall manor, being always held of the earls and dukes of Norfolk by the service of a quarter of a fee.

The third part belonged to the abbot of Bury, and was held by a locman of his in the confessor's days, and by Joceline, brother of the abbot, in the conqueror's, the whole town being then a league long, and half a league broad, and paid 8d. ob. 1q. Dane geld; there were then five acres of land belonging to the church, this was called Semere's manor, from the Seymors, or St. Maur's, lords thereof, and was held of the abbey by the service of a whole knight's fee.

The fourth part belonged to Ely abbey, but we don't find who gave it, though imagine it was given with Garboldisham, to which it might then belong; it is plain it was seized as that was, and recovered from Roger Bigot in the conqueror's days, after which the abbot held it but a little while, for it came to earl Warren, whether by seffment or purchase we cannot say: one of those earls granted it to William de la Snore, to be held of the castle at Acre by the service of a quarter of a fee, from which time we find nothing of it until 1288, and then William de Blo-Norton held it by that service. In 1401 John Armiger had it; and in 1570 one Chittock had it, but was soon after purchased and joined to Semere manor; it is now called Brent-hall, or Burnt-hall, because the mansion-house was burnt down, and still retains a place in the stile of the court, which runs thus;—"Brome-hall and Semere's, with Brent-hall in Blow-Norton."

BROOME-HALL manor was so called from the family of the Broomes, who had one part of it of the grant of the Bigots in very early days, the other part coming to them from Roger de Somery, whose ancestors had it of the earl Warren's gift. It seems that Roger de Broome married Petronilla, one of the heiresses

esses of Roger de Somery, and in the time of Henry III. held it jointly with her as part of the inheritance of Roger de Somery, of the earl of Arundel; this was about 1280, in this family it remained until on the decease of James Broome, esq. without issue. About 1510 it descended to his two sisters, viz. Mary Jermy and Anne, first married to Robert Stede, esq. after to John Brampton, and then to Robert Rookwood, gent. at her death the whole went to Thomas Brampton her son and heir, who had purchased the other moiety in 1533 of Edward Jermy, son and heir of Mary Broome, she and Ralph Shelton, esq. son of Sir John Shelton, knt. her second husband, joining to make a complete title, and thus it was joined to SEMERE-HALL manor, which was part of the revenues of Bury abbey, and belonged to Joceline, brother to abbot Baldwin, who infeoffed him in it in the conqueror's time; it after came to the Bigots, of whom it was held in the eleventh century by the family surnamed de Cadomo, or Caam; Richard de Caam was lord and patron of St. Andrew's in 1280, and in 1285 Olive his widow, who held it dower, remitted all her claim and right to Sir John de Dykele, knt. who seems to be heir general to Richard de Caam, and in the same year Sir John granted it Ralph de Sancto Mauro, or Seymore†, and Alice his wife, and their heirs. In 1345 John de Seymor was lord, and held it of John de Segrave as of his manor of Fornacet, he of the abbott

† This Ralph was attached to answer the king, that whereas he had commanded him to attend him personally at Carlisle with his whole service in his army against the Scots fifteen days after Easter, or before that time to appear at the exchequer and fine for that service, he despising the mandate neither came to do the service, nor appeared to fine for it. He pleaded that the precept was not delivered, and that he held nothing of the king for which he ought to do that service, upon which he was dismissed.  
*Madox Hist. Excheq.* 461.

bot, and the abbot of the king at half a fee, and paid 20s. relief. In 1435 it was settled on Ralph Gunton, and his heirs. About 1510 it is said to be in the heirs of John Botteram, of whom, in all probability, it was purchased by Christopher Coote, esq\*. He died September 17, 1563, seized of Seymour's manor here. Richard Coote, his son and heir, was afterwards knighted, and lived to the age of 24 years. Sir Charles Coote, knt and bart. who translated himself and family into Ireland, where he was lieutenant in the time of Charles I. and was killed in 1642, was the last of the family that had this manor, it being joined to Broome-hall manor by the Bramptons, who purchased it, and so had all the manors, and the advowson. Henry Brampton, and his father, Gaudy Brampton, lord in 1660, sold the estate to Mr. Watts, an attorney in Norwich, of whom Mrs. Dorothy, his mother-in-law, and her second husband, purchased it. Mr. John Best purchased the estate of Mr. W. Watts, and gave it to Nathaniel Best, who was his son by a former wife; he is buried in Norton chancel: at his death he gave it to Mr. Robert Brown of Blow-Norton, lord and patron.

The leet belongs to the hundred, the leet-fee being 14d. The lord of the hundred is lord paramount, having waif and stray, view of frankpledge and free-warren, assize of bread and beer, &c. for when the lords

\* Mr. Martin of Palgrave had the most beautiful pedigree of this family that we ever saw. Mr. Neve's collections relating to it are very large.— It is said that Sir Nicholas Coote, knt. who lived in queen Elizabeth's time, was a retainer of the duke of Norfolk's, and upon his cause happened to strike the attorney general, for which he was fined 20,000l. and laid in prison for a long time, and at last was forced to sell his estate to pay the fine, with the consent of Sir Charles his son, who was created in the year 1660 earl of Montrath in Ireland.

lords of the several manors were forced by *quo warantos* to produce their charters; and plead what liberties had been immemorially used, the lords here did not claim any.

The customs of the manors are these;—the fines are at the lord's will. The copyhold descends to the youngest son; it gives no dower. The tenants cannot fell timber nor waste the copyhold houses without licence. In Broomehall manor every free tenant, upon purchase of any freehold, pays a year's free rent to the lord as a customary relief.

We don't find that the religious were much concerned here. The monks of Thetford's portion of tithes out of St. Andrew's was taxed at 10s. The prior of the canons of Thetford in 1428 was taxed 12d. for his temporalities here; the prior of Ixworth 2s. 6d. and the prior of Buckenham 14s.

The church of St. Margaret had rectors until 1343, after which it lay without any institution until 1394, when Robert de Brom the patron obtained a perpetual union of it to the church of St. Andrew, upon proving to the bishop that the revenues were so small that nobody would accept it, and it appearing that the church was much decayed both in its roof and walls, and the parishioners very poor and unable to repair it, and that St. Andrew's church standing close by it, in the same church-yard, was big enough to hold all the parishioners of both, he licensed them to pull down St. Margaret's church, May 13. 1394, upon which it was levelled to the ground, in such a manner that at this day there appears no remains of any such place. When Sir Roger de Brom was patron, Norwich Doomsday saith, that it had a house and ten acres of glebe; it then paid 12d. synodals, and 2s. 2d. procurations;

procurations; from this time each manor had an alternate presentation to St. Andrew's in Blo-norton, which before belonged solely to Semere manor. When Sir John Dykele was patron the rector had eleven acres of glebe, but no house, and paid 12d. synodals, and 4s. procurations. The first rector we meet with was about 1320.

From the evidences and annals of Caius college, in Cambridge, we learn that Sir Stephen Smith, rector here, July 3, 1430, gave all his lands and tenu- ments in Barningham, in Suffolk, for the maintenance of a fellow to be a priest, to perform divine offices for the dead in that college, and to preach thrice every year at Barningham, viz. on St. Margaret's day, in Advent, and in Lent, and in his sermons to make mention of him, his benefactor, and that he should be called Stephen Smith's priest. The lands given then were 4l. per ann. and in Dr. Caius' time 5l. he is the fifth senior fellow on the foundation. The estate now consists of a convenient farm-house and seventy acres of pasture, twenty-four acres and three roods of arable, all well wooded, the money rent being 8l. 6s. 8d. the corn rent two quarters and an half of wheat, and three quarters three bushels of malt.

In 1762 the Rev. Charles Browne presented himself to the rectory of Norton, alias Blo-Norton St. Andrew and St. Margaret.

This rectory is valued at 5l. 6s. 8d. and being sworn of the clear yearly value of 38l. 5s. is discharged of first fruits and tenths. There is a rectory house and twenty-five acres of glebe. Here was a guild dedicated to St. Peter.

The church is a mean fabric of one aisle only, which is thatched, as is the chancel, the north porch is tiled, the tower is square and hath in it three bells.

There is no inscription in the nave, this being now lost:—*Orale pro anima Margarate Coote, generose que ob. x<sup>o</sup> die mens. Sept. A<sup>o</sup>. Dni. 1521.* At the entrance of the chancel lies a stone robbed of its brasses, which had an inscription to Thomas Garneys, esq. and Alice his wife. He died Aug. 1, 1544, with his arms.—Another hath Stede impaling Broome, robbed of its inscription. John Stede esq. who died Dec. 20, 1540.

Another stone was laid over a priest, the cup and wafer, the emblems of the priesthood, still remaining.

On three brass plates upon a stone at the north-east corner of the chancel, Brampton quartering Broome, impaling Rookwood. Here lieth interred Thomas Brampton, esquier, who deceased the ix daye of November, in the yere of our God MCCCCCLXXVI.

At the upper end of the chancel, on the south side, was a raised tomb covered with a marble, under which Mr. Christopher Coote, who died in 1563, was interred; this is now taken down, and the stone laid on the pavement.

The house right over against the church is called the Place, which name it assumed when it was rebuilt by John Brampton, esq. its old name being Broome-Hall.

In the kitchen window (before it was repaired) we saw the arms of Broome, Calthorpe, and Stede.

*"Love and Grace dwelle in this Place."*

William

William Calthorpe married Cecily Broome, and was owner of an estate here in 1536.

The arms of Stede were imperfect, and there was also an imperfect coat of Brampton.

In 1603 there were 110 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are thirty-two houses and 160 Inhabitants. It paid 50s. to the old tenth, and now is assed at 660l. to the land-tax.

Here is about one rood of land, which lies at Furze common, a house being lately pulled down there, and another rebuilt, more convenient, for two dwellers on the waste, which hath about a rood of land laid to it.

The commons are called New-cross, which contains about ten acres, Furze common about thirty acres, south fen about thirty acres, and there are about eighty acres of common carr and fen, on all which they common solely.

**GAROLDISHAM, GAREOLDESHAM, GERBODES,** or GERBOLD'S-TOWN, is so called from some Saxon who was owner of it, *ham* in their language signifying a house, or village; it is bounded by the Lophams, and Kenninghall, on the east; by Market-Harling, north; and by West Harling, and Gasthorpe, west: it contained several manors, all which were united in Thomas duke of Norfolk in the time of Henry VIII. and continue so to this day; the biggest manor was called Wica, afterwards Wykes, now Wicken; the common, called Wicken Ling, is the only memorial now remaining of that name.

The capital manor in the year 1045 belonged to the abbey of Ely, Wilfric, the 6th abbot of that house,

being lord of it. This abbot had a brother, called Gudmund, who proposing marriage to a nobleman's daughter, was refused; because, though he was of noble extraction, yet not having forty hides of land, he could have no place among the noblemen; the abbot to supply this, *privately* makes over to him these manors belonging to his abbey, &c. Garboldisham, Marham, Lyvermere, Nachentun, Acholt, &c. the monks reclaim them, the abbot retires to Acholt, and there dies with grief, and is buried at Ely. Thurstan, his successor, prosecuted the claim, and came to this agreement, that Gudmund should enjoy them for life; in the mean time the Normans invaded the land, and Hugh de Montfort, or Monte-forti, a valiant Norman, who came in with the Conqueror, (to whom he was some time standard-bearer) seized those lands, and kept them from the church.

MONTFORT'S MANOR in the Confessor's time was worth 3l. and in the Conqueror's 6l. per ann. The whole town, with all its manors, was a league long, and a league broad, and out of every 20s. Dane-gelt laid upon this hundred, this town paid 34d. ob.

Hugh de Montfort lost his life in a duel with Walcheline de Ferrers, leaving issue, Hugh, his son, who by his first wife had issue Robert and Hugh; which Robert was William Rufus's general in 1098, but favoring the title of Robert Curthose, in opposition to Henry I. he was called in question for infidelity, whereupon, being conscious of his guilt, he got leave to go to Jerusalem, and left all his possessions to the king; they both died in pilgrimage, without issue.

This Hugh granted the manor to William de Francheville, whose son, William, in 1179, confirmed  
two

two parts of the tithes of the demesnes of his manor of Wikes, or Garboldisham, Langford, Bodney, and Naclon, to the monks of Bermondesey, in Surrey, to whom the said Hugh de Montfort had given them; this portion was issuing out of St. John Baptist's church, the moiety of which advowson belonged to this manor; and in 1428 the prior was taxed for his spirituals here at 13s. 4d. William, his son, in 1240 married Freschentia, daughter and heiress of Ralph de Banham.

In 1240 the manor was charged with an annual rent charge of five marks, payable to Laurence de Boyton, and his heirs, which in 1250 was confirmed by Ralph de Francheville, then lord, to Lauretta de Boyton, together with the manor of Langford, to be held of Ralph, and his heirs, by the service of two pair of white gloves, and one penny, yearly.

Ralph was succeeded by Robert, his son, who sold it to Robert de Cantelupe; he covenanted to pay six marks yearly out of it to the said Robert Francheville, and his heirs, so that there were now in two annuities eleven marks issuing out of it; and immediately after it was conveyed to him he agreed with William de Banham that he should present to St. John's one turn, in right of his manor, called Escois, and the said Robert the other turn, in right of his manor, late Francheville's, which was settled accordingly by fine; and thus this advowson continued till 1280, when it was sold by Robert de Buckenham (who had got the whole right of presentation by purchasing the turn from this manor) to sir Robert de Bosco, and his heirs, from which time both the advowsons went with their manors: in this, or the next year, John de Cantelupe, son of Robert, sold it to William de Pakenham; he was afterwards knighted, and became

justice itinerant; he made great purchases in this town.

Alfred, or Aubrey de Pakenham, in 1345 paid 20s. relief for half a fee, which he then held of the earl Marshal; and in 1421 part of the manor was held by knight's service of John de Hastings, earl of Pembroke. In his, and his father's time, many of the demesne lands were granted off, and certain barley rents reserved, to be paid from them.

Robert Pakenham, of Shropham, esq. inherited, and died seised of this, and Verly's manor, in Snettisham, and a manor in Shropham, Snitterton, and the adjacent towns, in 1463. Henry Pakenham, his son and heir, died seised without issue male, leaving Ann, one of his daughters and heiresses: we cannot say how many heiresses there were, but this Ann married John Dobbes, or Dowbes, of Garboldisham, esq. who purchased all the parts; for in 1526 he was sole lord of Pakenham's manor: he left one only daughter, Ann, who married sir William Barwick; he was knighted by James I. at Whitehall, May 30, 1604; he jointly with his wife, and John Mallowes, of Bury, in Suffolk, gent. Thomas Traverse, late of East Harling, gent. and Edward Barwick, gent. brother to sir William, sold it in 1607 to sir John Holland, of Kenninghall, and sir Thomas Holland, his son, in trust for the earl of Arundel.

The scite of the manor was dilapidated, and contained five acres; to it belonged large demesnes, divers heriots, free rents, and rents of assize, barley rents, and a fold-course, called Pakenham's-Tripp.

By this purchase the Norfolk family became sole lords of all the manors in this town, though they had not

not the advowson, and so continued till 1627, and then the earl of Arundel, and his trustees, sold the demesne lands of this manor, and its fold-course, for three hundred sheep, and their followers, in Garboldisham, and Kenninghall, and all the barley rents, to Framlingham Gaudy, esq. of West Harling, and his heirs, the waifs, strays, and all other royalties, together with all the free rents, and wastes, being particularly excepted, to the earl and his heirs. In 1629 the said earl sold the manor of Pakenham-hall (Uphall, Wiggenhall, and Buckenham's being included in it) to sir Drue Drury, of Riddleworth, who kept his first court immediately after the conveyance, the said earl charging it with the whole sum of 10l. a year rent charge, which now issued out of this and the other manors that were joined to it, and obliged sir Drue to give security to Framlingham Gaudy, esq. to indemnify him and his heirs against any claim that should be made for any part of the 10l. out of the said demesnes, fold-course, or barley rents, which were conveyed to the said Framlingham. After sir Drue's death it went to sir Drue, his son, then to sir Robert Drury, bart. who left it to his wife, lady Drury.

The leet belongs to the hundred; the leet-fee is 5s. the castle-ward was 12d. every seven weeks.

In 1609 the rents of assize of all the manors were 22l. 8s. 3q. It extended into North Lopham, Gafthorpe, Shropham, and Blo-Norton.

The barley-rents being sold to Framlingham Gaudy, as aforesaid, he in 1629 sold off forty coombs, three bushels, two pecks and an half, to Richard Peade, of Bury St. Edmund's, gent. Thomas Warren, of Great Thurlow, and John Warren, gent. of

Garboldisham, his son and heir, which issued out of divers lands formerly held by the Cootes, Barwicks, Tillots, &c. The rest of them being recovered by decree in chancery, (some of the tenants refusing to pay them) continued in the Gaudys, until Sir Bassingbourne Gaudy, the last of that name, or his executors, sold them to Robert Haylet of Garboldisham, gent. who had lately sold every one their parts; the whole sum at first was fifty-one quarters, six bushels, and half, issuing out of the demesne lands of Wiggen-hall's, Bokenham's, and Pakenham's manors, which lay dispersedly among the tenants lands, for which reason the lords demised them to such as kept ploughs for maintenance of their tilth, some at two bushells an acre, and some at three, some at more and some at less, according to the goodness of the land. The rent charge of 10l. a year issued out of the manors of Pakenham and Wiggenhall; in 1288, John de Wiggenhalde acknowledged that he ought to pay five marks, 2s. 2d. per ann. out of his manor, to Nicholas Weyland, of whom he held it at the third part of two fees, and it appears, that the said Nicholas had the other annuities issuing out of Pakenham's manor settled upon him, for in 1290 he was seised of 10l. rent, issuing out of the manors of Garboldisham, from which time it had passed continually with the manor of Oxborough, from the Weylands to the Tuddenhams, and from them to the Bedingfields, Sir Richard Bedingfield, bart. of Oxborough, being now possessed of it.

Bois's, alias UPHALL MANOR, was held by Aluric, a freeman, in the time of the Confessor, but was seized by the Conqueror into his own hands, and by him committed to earl Godric's care; this is the only part that in Doomsday is called Gerboldestham; it was valued in the first survey at 30s. and in the second  
at

at 40s. It was granted from the crown to Hugh Bigot, earl of Norfolk, and passed from that family, along with Fersfield, to Sir William du Bois, knt. from which time it went exactly as Fersfield did, to which we refer our readers.

To this manor the advowson of Garboldisham All Saints wholly belonged; and in 1280 St. John's advowson was joined to it, being purchased by sir Robert de Bosco, as is before observed, both which continued with it until 1533, when the manor came by exchange to the duke of Norfolk, (the advowson being excepted): it was always held of the Norfolk family at one fee, its relief being 40s. and in 1246 Sir Robert de Bois, then lord, had these privileges allowed him to this manor, viz. a weekly market every Wednesday, a yearly fair for three days, on the vigil, the day, and the day after St. Luke the Evangelist, a pillory, tumbrell, or ducking-stool, with liberty of free-warren, it being obliged to do suit to the hundred court, or pay 2s. a year.

The manors of Wiggen-hall and Buckenham were both joined to this before 1386, for then the stiles of the court was Uphall, Wiggen-hall, and Bokenham's, in Garboldisham, and thus they continued until 1607, and then were joined to Pakenham's, the earl of Arundel becoming lord of the whole remained so until 1627, when he sold Uphall, Wiggenhall, and Pakenham's demesnes, with the scites of all those manors, their barley-rents, and fold-courses for 350 ewes with their followers, with all the pastures and shackages belonging to that course in Garboldisham (all royalties, waifs, strays, and money-rents being excepted, all which the earl still kept whole and undivided, until he sold them in 1629 to Sir Drue Drury, of Riddleworth) to Framlingham Gaudy, esq. in which

which family they continued until September 14, 1666, and then Sir William Gaudy, of West-Harling, settled all his estate on Mary, his only daughter, to raise 2500l. for her fortune, and made Framlingham Gaudy, esq. (her uncle) executor, who sold the Garboldisham lands to Wentworth Garneys, esq. of Boyland-hall, in Mourning-thorpe, the heirs of whose family enjoyed it.

WIGGEN-HALL'S MANOR, at the survey, belonged to bishop Osborn, and was valued at 20s. in the Confessor's, but was risen to 50s. at the Conqueror's time, when it was in Kenninghall foken.

This afterwards belonged to the Bigots, by whom it was granted to the Heyeninghams, of which family it was always held by the third part of a fee, of Totham-parva manor, in Essex, as parcel of the barony of Tolshunt, of the honor of Hakenet, the relief being 8s. 4d.

In the time of Richard I. John de Jerpenville was lord, and made a grant to John de Garbaudisham and his heirs, as appears under Garboldeham's free tenement; it after came to the Wiggenhalls, but how we do not find, though imagine it must be from the Weylands, for John de Wiggenhale held it of Sir Nicholas Weyland by the service of a rent charge of five marks a year, payable to him and his heirs.—In 1345 Agnes de Wiggenhale had it, after which it soon fell into Bois's manor.

Escois and Buckenham's manors belonged to William de Warren, earl of Surrey, in the Conqueror's time, and had two carucates in demesne, then worth 40s. it being given him by the Conqueror as one carucate, the whole of which was then in Kenninghall foken;

soken ; after he had it, it was annexed to the castle of Lewes : this was afterwards divided into two manors.

Escois's MANOR, which was the first part, was held of the Munchensies, by the family firsnamed de Banham, the Munchensies had it of the Bigots, they of the Escois's, and they of the earl Warren ; Ralph de Banham had them, whose only daughter, Freschentia, in 1240, was married to William de Francheville, lord of Pakenham's manor, to which this part was then joined, as was a moiety of St. John's advowson, which belonged to it, though the Banham family still continued to have a free tenement and many rents here, which was granted by this William, out of the fortune that Freschentia brought him.

BUCKENHAM'S MANOR was the second part, and was given by Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, with Adeliza his daughter, to Aubrey de Vere, second earl of Oxford, of whose family it was held at half a fee, and the eighth part of a fee: a part was after held of Tateshale's barony, and another small part of Munchensie's. Emma, an heiress, brought it to Ralph de Chadefgrave ; to the manor belonged a moiety of St. John's advowson. In 1277 Peter de Buckenham was lord, he left it to Robert, his son, to whom in 1284 the said Ralph de Chadefgrave, and Emma his wife, released all their right, and in 1286 he had waif allowed to this manor, and the moiety of St. John's, the whole advowson of which he sold in 1280, to sir Robert de Bosco, having purchased the parts that belonged to Pakenham's, and Escois's manors. Leonard de Buckenham was lord in 1380, in whose time it was joined to Bois's manor, for in the feodaries in 1402, we find that the lady Margaret Howard held the third part of a fee, which Leonard

Buckenham

Buckenham held, but though this family parted from the manor, their descendants continued to have a good estate here, and some small free rents belonging to it. In 1476 Sir Ralph Buckenham, of Garboldisham, desired in his will to be buried in St. Peter's Church, of Great Livermere, in Suffolk.

CHURCHES MANOR, or FREE-TENEMENT, took its name from its owners, who were so called from living near the church of this town. At the survey it was part of Montfort's, or Pakenham's manor, and so continued until it was granted from it by the Francheville's to *Hugh at the Churche of Garbaudesham*, who is the first that we meet with of this family, but there being no date to the deed we cannot ascertain the time; in 1290 it belonged to *Gilbert at the Church*, from 1532 we meet with no more of it until 1540, and then *Richard Lothewyk* had it, but the rents were now sold off, the rental being only 5s. 9d. per ann. We meet with no more of it afterwards, so that it shews as if those rents were either sold off, or the lands purchased to the tenement, one of which was generally the end of these small manors. The parish of St. John held three roods of land at Hobbyn's Mill, near St. John's rectory-house, by the free-rent of 2d. a year, and the town of Garboldisham held a messuage, called the Camping-Lond, by the free-rent of 6d. a year.

GARBOLDISHAM'S FREE-TENEMENT had its rise in the time of Richard I. it being till then part of Wiggen-Hall's manor, which *John de Jerpenville*, Lord thereof, granted to Robert de Gerbaudesham, for his homage and service, and 8s. 6d. a year rent, and 4d. 3q. a year ward-money to Dover Castle, and 12d. 3q. scutage, out of every 20s. that should be laid upon Jerpenville's manor of Garboldisham, and

and other property; and in consideration of this grant, John, son of Robert de Garboldisham, was to marry Maud, daughter of Thomas de Ravingham. This family of Garboldisham was very numerous, though we do not imagine that all of them were Lords of this tenement.

From this family it passed to the Moncks, another numerous family in this town, so named from Alan Le-Moyn, or the Monk, who had lands here very early, as several deeds without date shew. In 1290, William Le-Monck, of Garboldisham, had a messuage and ten acres settled on him.

In 1328, William de Banham released all his right to Richard Le-Monck, in all his possessions in Garboldisham, so that now he had both the free tenements, but how they went after we do not find, though the family continued somewhat longer in the town.

BANHAM'S FREE TENEMENT had its rise out of Escois manor, since 1240, and consisted of severallands and rents of that manor, granted by William de Francheville to the Banham family, after he had married Freschentia, the heiress of Ralph de Banham, and in this family it continued till 1328, when William de Banham, released it to Richard Le-Monck, Robert de Banham his father, having sold, or mortgaged it before, to John Le-Monck, father of Richard, by which release it fell into Monck's tenement.

Of HOPTON'S TENEMENT we know but little, only find it often named in evidences, and that Adam de Hopton, lord of it in 1268, was disseised by John de Dickleburgh of his common of pasture in Blo-Norton,

Norton, which belonged to his free tenement in Garboldisham.

The customs of the manor are these: the copyhold descends to the eldest son, the fine is at the lord's will; the tenants can fell timber on the copyhold, plant, and cut down on the waste, without licence; it gives no dower, it hath liberty of free-warren, waif, stray, and all other privileges, except the leet, return of writs, office of coroner, clerk of the markett, and assize of bread and ale, all which were excepted when it was sold to Sir Drue Drury, who after his purchase sold off his part of the demesnes, and settled the rent charge of 10l. per ann. upon that part, from which it is now paid by the owner of Uphall, in Garboldisham, who hath the demesnes of the several manors, except those of Buckenham's manor, which belonged to the late Sir Edmund Bacon, of Garboldisham, Bart. but now to Crisp Molineux, Esq.

The RECTORY MANOR belonged to the rectors of St. John's, who were always lords of it. The customs are the same as the great manor.

Of the advowson.—The advowson of All Saints wholly belonged to Bois's, or Uphall manor, and that of St. John's was purchased to it in 1280 by sir Robert de Bois, from which time they both passed with it, till 1533, and then being parted, went as Fersfield advowson did till 1632, and then that advowson, or rather moiety of both advowsons, that belonged to sir Thomas Cornwallis, knt. came to sir William Withipoll, knt. and in 1637 Lucy Withipoll, and Thomas Clerc, presented by his

† The market and fair have been disused for some time.

his grant ; at his death it went to Elizabeth Withipoll, his heiress, who married Leicester Devereux, viscount Hereford ; he was succeeded by Leicester, his son and heir, who died in 1682, and was succeeded by Edward Devereux, who died issueless in 1700, leaving Ann, his sister, his sole heiress ; she married Leicester Martin, esq. of Christ-church, in Ipswich, who sold it to the late sir Edmund Bacon, of Garboldisham, bart.

The other advowson, or moiety of both the advowsons, belonged to the Wingfields, and passed as Fersfield, from the Wingfields to the earl of Rochford, the right honorable William Henry Nassau de Zul-estein, earl of Rochford, being now patron.

The religious concerned here were, Thetford, Bermonsey, and Camps, to whom Robert Ashfield aliened lands in 1391 ; and in 1381 John Plais, and others, aliened lands and tenements here of 40l. value to the chantry at Raveningham.

There were several ancient good families inhabiting in this town, besides those already mentioned ; one was surnamed Atte Stone, of Garboldisham ; another de Ponte, or Atte Brigge ; another le Woodward, which family hath continued to this time.

The Taseburghs had a good estate here, of which John Taseburgh, gent. was owner in 1540.

The names of the streets in 1413 were, Wykyn-street, Nethergate-street, and Churclegate-street, and there is a way much spoken of, called the Palmer's-Way ; we suppose it is that which leads from Gashorpe-gate, by which the pilgrims used to pass in pilgrimage to our Lady at Walsingham ; there is also

also a large ditch, commonly called Little Devil's Ditch, which runs from Gathorpe-Moor to Harsling-Moor, and is said to have been an ancient intrenchment, but by the proper name we take it to have been made to divide Garboldisham from its neighbouring parishes, as it still does, it being called the *Boundary*.

After the dissolution divers small pieces of land settled to superstitious uses, as for *objets*, lamps, &c. were granted to divers persons.

The church of St. John Baptist is a good building, having the nave, two aisles, with the chapels at their east ends, north vestry, and north porch, leaded, its chancel thatched, a tall square tower, and six bells. The church, aisles, and chancel, are ancient, but the tower and north porch are not so, being built about 1500, as is evident from the name of William Pece, who was then a chaplain in this church, and chief benefactor to the work.

On the tower are the names of several other benefactors.

There is only one brass plate left, which is inscribed to—*John Carlton, of Garboldisham, mercer, who died the third of April, 1579.*

In the east chancel window are the arms of Bardolph, Howard, and Scales; and three knights kneeling, one in a surcoat of Howard, another of Scales, and another of Bardolph, which were very remarkable, and were lately destroyed, with many other arms and antiquities, when the windows were repaired.

In the windows of the north aisle were the arms of Bois, Howard, Cornwall, and Felbrigg.

In a south chancel window, Howard and Scales, impaled.

In the windows of the aisles, Brotherton, Howard, and Plais; Howard, impaling, per pale indented or. and gu. a bordure of the second, bezante; Felbrigg impaling Scales.

The Bois' arms are in many windows; at the east end of the north aisle is a chapel, which belonged to that family, in which there was an officiating chaplain for the dead, and probably another in the opposite chapel, in the south aisle: the names of some of them that served here, and in Bois's chapel in All Saints church, Mr. Blomefield extracted out of evidences of lands in this town.

Towards the west end of the church-yard are two altar-tombs, inscribed—*To John Williamson, gent. obijt March 2, 1690, ætatis sue 32.—*

*Maria Williamson, obijt August 22, 1697, ætatis sue 22.*

The scite of the rectory-house joined to the east end of this church-yard till a new one was built, near a quarter of a mile north-east of the church.

All Saints church stands north of St. John's, about half a furlong, or somewhat more, and was officiated in till the death of Mr. Vilet, in 1726; from which time service was left off by degrees, and upon a petition of the patrons, incumbent, and parishioners, in 1734, licence was obtained of the bishop to suffer

it to dilapidate; upon which the roof of the nave was unthatched, and that of the north aisle unleaded, and both were taken down, the font and seats pulled up, and the five bells taken down, all which, with the other materials, (except the least bell, which was carried to St. John's) were sold, and the money applied to repair and beautify St. John's church. The bodies of the Bacons, buried in the chancel, were taken up, and carried to a vault belonging to that family in Redgrave church, and the marbles that laid over them were removed, and placed in the vestry of St. John's church, where they now lie. The windows both of the nave and aisle were chiefly painted glass, and very well done, but were all broken to pieces; the roof of the nave was board, painted all over with the names of Jesus and Mary, and this in the midst:

*Betwex syn yis and  
Ye rode loff, ye youngling  
Han payd for yis cost.  
Ya iLord yat deyid for alle mankynde  
Have mercy upon hem at her ende.*

By which it appears that it was done at the charge of the parishioners, soon after 1450, and that John de Vere, earl of Oxford, who was then patron, woud not assist them, for he must be the *youngling* here meant; and indeed it seems as if he designed to have had this church (when he consolidated it to St. John's) fall down, it being then much in decay, as is plain from the great repairs then done to it, the parishioners not consenting to it, but, on the contrary, shewed their dislike by these verses, which it will not be amiss to render into more modern language:

" Between

" Between this place and the rood loft\*,  
 " The youngling han't paid for this cost,  
 " That Lord that died for all mankind,  
 " Have mercy upon them † at their end."

The roof of the chancel also at that time was repaired, and because it should not be too burdensome to the rector, many pious people contributed, as is apparent from these two verses still remaining on it:

*Alle alle hevir holpe to yis good deed  
 God send hyer sowle helpe to hyer mede.*

All, all, [that] ever helped to this good deed,  
 God send their soul help for their mede.‡

The cancelli, or lattices, between the church and chancel, were erected about the same time, being neatly carved and adorned with the images of St. Mary Magdalen, St. German, St. Agnes, and others, and were made at the expence of William Bole.

The windows also were new glazed, all of painted glass, and adorned, some of them with the twelve apostles, others with saints and confessors, others with the arms of the benefactors at whose cost they were put up, and others with their effigies kneeling, by which it appears that some were made at one person's cost only, others by three or four that joined, and in most of them were the donors names, all which were decayed, except two in the north aisle windows.

D 2

On

\* The rood-loft was placed between the church and chancel, so called because the rood, or cross, always stood on it.

† Them, refers to the parishioners that were at the charge of the work.

‡ Gift.

On a south window, Lucy's arms, impaling gul. a fess and label of three, or.

At the east end of the aisle was a chapel, which hath laid in ruins many years; it was founded by Thomas de Bosco, rector of this church, for his own interment, the initial letters of whose name still remain, carved in stone, on its buttress. The entrance out of the aisle was by a large crois arch.

There is a good square tower at the west end, built much about that time, and, as tradition hath it, in this manner: the foundation was laid by a tailor, continued by a woolcomber, and finished by the parish. Now we do not pretend to aver its truth, but mention it, because, agreeable thereto, we find a stone fixed in the building, about ten feet from the ground, on which is cut a large pair of tailor's shears, and on another, about ten feet higher, is a wool-comb.

The church is almost whole as to its walls; the roofs still remain on the chancel and south porch, though great part of the thatch is gone; the doors are taken off; the grave-stones still lie in their places, some of which had brasses formerly on them, but they were lost long before the church was ruined.

On two black marbles that were in the chancel, but now removed to St. John's as aforesaid, Bacon, impaling a fess wavy, between three delis's.—Under this marble is buried the body of sir Robert Bacon, bart. who departed this life on the 31st of June, in the year of our Lord 1704.

Here lieth interred the body of Mrs. Jane Bacon, the eldest daughter of sir Robert Bacon, and dame Elizabeth, his

*his wife, (that was buried at Wighton in this county) who died on the 14th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1705.—This is joined to the south side of the former, and hath Bacon's arms in a lozenge.*

Sir Edmund Bacon, premier baronet of all England, elected knight of the shire for the county of Norfolk in the great contested election in 1734, resided in this parish, which house, with the estate here, devolved to his daughter, Miss Bacon, who sold it to Crisp Molineux, esq. who at present resides here, and is patron of the living.

Sir William Barwick, who died after 1607, is said to be buried here, but we are not certain of it.

In 1450 John de Vere, earl of Oxford, lord Bulbec, Samford and Scales, chamberlain and admiral of England, and Mr. John Halle, rector of St. John's, petitioned for a consolidation, setting forth, “ That “ the churches were so near, that they might be conveniently served by one rector, and that both, “ when joined, would maintain a rector, but were “ not sufficient to do so single; and besides, the “ tithes were so mixed that they caused disputes on “ all sides, and the clergy so thin, by reason of the “ great plague, that it was difficult to procure a “ clerk, upon which it was agreed, that a consolidation should pass upon the following terms, viz. “ That the church of St. John Baptist be henceforward the principal and mother church, for all sacraments, for all the parishioners, and that the rectors shall be obliged to keep up only the rectory-house of St. John's, but should be strictly forced to keep up both the chancels, and by himself, or a stipendiary curate, have service performed duly every week in All Saints church.” This was transacted

in the collegiate church of the Virgin Mary in the Fields, at Norwich, Feb. 25, 1450, by John Wygenhale, doctor of the decrees, commissary, and vicar general.

In 1478, Aug. 12, Edmund Albon, doctor of physic, and of *all* the liberal arts, was instituted to the church of Garboldisham, St. John Baptist, together with the church of All Saints annexed.

In 1726, May 31, the late Rev. Henry Stebbing was instituted on the presentation of the late sir Edmund Bacon, of Garboldisham, bart. he was doctor of divinity, archdeacon of Wilts, chaplain in ordinary to his majesty, rector of Rickinghall Inferior, in Suffolk, preacher to the honorable society of Gray's Inn, lecturer of Bow-church, Cheapside, London, author of the book, intitled *Polemical Tracts*, in folio, and of several other ingenious pieces.

Dr. Stebbing built the parsonage-house, where it now stands, in a pleasant situation.

In 1748 sir Edward Bacon presented William Robinson; and in 1774 Charles Wake was presented by Crisp Molineux, esq. representative in parliament for Lynn Regis; who in 1777 presented the Rev. Charles Sherard Molineux to the rectory of Garboldisham St. John, with All Saints, consolidated Feb. 25, 1450.

This rectory is still charged with first-fruits and tenths, and rated in the king's books at 19l. 16s. ob.

A pension of 6s. 8d. is now paid to the duke of Norfolk, in right of the priory of Thetford, it being a perpetual composition for the tithes of the demesnes of

of Ralph de Banham, lord of Escois manor, who gave his tithes to that priory.

The following curious will was in Mr. Blomefield's custody:—In 1531, May 1, W. Keye, of Garboldisham, was buried in St. John's church-yard; he gave “ To the hye auter iijs. iiijd. Item, to the led-  
“ dinge of St. John Baptist's cherche, whane they be-  
“ gyne to remove the leede, xiijs. iiijd. Item, to the  
“ gyldyng of the new candil bem in the cherche of  
“ All Seynts, vjs. iiijd. Item, to our ladyes fryrys  
“ in Norwich, to be prayed for, half a trental, vs.  
“ Item, to the fryres at Babwell, iijs. iiijd. Item, to  
“ eche hows of fryres in Thetford, to be prayed for,  
“ iijs. iiijd. Item, to the nunys in the same town,  
“ ijs. Item, to an abil preest to syng Divine service  
“ for my sowle, and the sowlys of all my good  
“ frendes, by the space of an hoole yere in St. John  
“ Baptist's cherche, viij marks, that is to say, half a  
“ yere after my decesse, and thensforth every year, a  
“ quarter, 'till the seid hoole yere be complete.  
“ Item, I gif half an acr of lond, lying in Lopham  
“ furlong, to find yerely evermore, v. gawdyes bren-  
“ nyng before our lady, in the chancel of St. John  
“ Baptist; at every antiphon of our lady, and at  
“ every feste of our lady, at maeſſe of the same feste,  
“ evermore: Howbeit, I will that whosoever shall  
“ hold my place and londes, shall have the occupa-  
“ con of the said lond, and the keepyng of the  
“ said v. gawdyes, and they onys to be renewed in  
“ every yere. Item, I will have my *objit* day kept  
“ yearly after my deceſſe, for v. yeres, at which *objit*  
“ I will my executors brewe ij combe of malte, and  
“ bake v. bushell of whete, and [buy] cheſe to the  
“ value of iijs. Item, I give half an acr at Medel-  
“ dred-Hegge, half an acr and half an rood at Co-  
“ pydthorn; j. acre j. rood at Dyche's-end, half an

" acre in Botonys, j. acre and half at Stanyell, j.  
 " Acre at Nethir-Red-Hegge, the whiche londes I  
 " have, and hold, at the bequest of sir William  
 " Pece, preest, to give to a brothir of the ordir of  
 " preachers in Thetford, to sey a sermon yerely ever-  
 " more, on Tuesday in Esterne-week, and to syng  
 " messe of requiem in the churche of St. John of  
 " Garboldesham; and to the parson and his depute,  
 " which is, and shall be for the time, to fay dirige  
 " iiijd. Item, I giff iij. rodes of medewe, j. rod by  
 " the lond of Will. Curson, preest, and j. rod and  
 " half by the lond of the countess of Oxforth, est,  
 " and iiij. roods, and half an acre, for the entent to  
 " have always on Monday in Eastern-week aforesaid  
 " vj. bushels of malte brewed, and iij bushels of  
 " whete baken, and ijs. in chese, to the relief and  
 " comfort of the parishioners of Garbelsham, there  
 " being a dirige on the said Monday, to pray for my  
 " sowl, and the sowles of all my good frends, and to  
 " the fryer iiijd. to remembry me in his messe." He  
 gave his capital tenement to Alice, his wife, for life,  
 then to be sold, and the money to find a priest to  
 sing a quarter in each year, till eight quarters be  
 ended, and the rest to repair and buy ornaments for  
 St. John's church, his wife and John Woodward  
 being executors; Leonard Rychardson, and William  
 Curson, priests, witnesses. Proved at Attleburgh,  
 May 19, 1533. These lands still are in the hands  
 of the parish.

Here is a town-house purchased with Mrs. Williamson's money, inhabited by three or four poor families.

The town lands are lett at about 22l. per ann.  
 and lie in Lopham, Norton, and Garboldisham.

This

This town is now (Blomefield) assessed at 978l. 9s. There are about eighty dwelling-houses, and 400 inhabitants.

GASTHORPE, or GATESTHORPE, is a small village, known by travellers by the name of Gasthorpe-gate, which is a public-house, that hath a gate for its sign, contrived at first from the name of the town. It stands on a great road, which crosses the river here: It seems to take its name from some owner of it, Gade's Dorp, or Gatesthorp, signifying the village, or mansion, of some one of that name.

The church is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and is a rectory, discharged of first fruits and tenths. It hath no parsonage house, but there are 30 acres of glebe.

It is charged in the king's books 6l. gs. 4d. ob. The annual value, with Riddlesworth, is 48l. gs. 1d. 3q.

The advowson belonged to the prior of the monks at Thetford, who always presented till the dissolution, unless in cases of lapse, or when that priory was in the king's hands as an alien.

In 1681, June 30, Thomas Barnes, A. M. was presented by sir Robert Drury, bart. he was instituted to Riddlesworth the same day, and held them by union till the 9th of December following, and then he obtained a perpetual consolidation.

In 1767 the Rev. Charles Wake was presented to the united rectory by lady Sarah Wake, widow of the late sir William Wake, bart.

The

The church stands alone on a hill, it is a very mean building, of one aisle only, and a chancel, both which are thatched, the tower is square, having only two bells, a third being sold in 1607 to repair the church; there is not one inscription, nor any thing else remarkable, except several very ancient coffin stones with crosses upon them, which were laid over some of the rectors, or other religious persons that were interred here. Since the consolidation, service is performed here but once in a fortnight.

This village was always small, being but half a league long, and half a league broad, and paid but 7d. Dane-geld. It belonged to the Conqueror, who committed it to earl Godrick's care; it had then one carucate in demesne, and was held by a freeman in king Edward's time, and was in Keninghall foken.

The abbot of Bury had a part here worth 5s. in the Confessor's time, and 10s. in the Conqueror's, when it was held of him by an Englishman.

The whole town, except the abbot's part, remained in the crown till Henry II. gave it to William de Albany, earl of Arundel, before 1198, and the year following, at his death, it went to William his son and heir, who made a seofment of the whole to Warine de Gatesthorpe, and his heirs, who were to hold it of him, and his heirs, by the service of two knights fees, and this is the reason that all the manors here were afterwards held of Tate-shale barony. Soon after this, it was divided, for the prior of Thetford had the advowson and half a fee, and John de Berdewell, and his partners, had another half fee, each of which constituted a manor.

nor. Gatesthorp's whole fee was afterwards called Westhall, or Wrotham's; the prior's half fee, Easthall, or Garlek's; and Berdewell's half fee was called Uphall.

WESTHALL, or WROTHAM'S MANOR, was after Warine's death in sir Adam de Gatesthorp, then in Galfrid de Stanton, and soon after in Adam de Wrotham. In 1366 the manor belonged to Roger de Felbrigge John de Seckford, knts. and others, trustees of Alice, widow of James de Wrotham, after married to John Cocket, who was lord. In 1398, Thomas de Riddleworth was Lord. About 1450, Thomas Riddleworth, dying soon after without heirs, as did his two sisters, Agnes and Margaret, upon which Robert son of Sir William Berdewell, knt. did homage for it to Ralph, lord Cromwell, as belonging to Tatehale barony, of which it was held by one fee; and thus it was joined to the other manor, and hath continued so ever since.

EASTHALL, or GARLEK'S MANOR, came some way or other, very soon, from Thetford prior, (who kept the advowson to himself, and part of the demesnes, valued in 1332 at a quarter of a fee) to John de Furneaux, and his trustees, who were Lords in 1280; after this it belonged to Jeffrey Bainard, whose son, Roger, was Lord in 1294, and lived at Wramplingham: he settled it on William de la Menewaryn, rector of East Harling, who in 1336 conveyed it to sir Walter de Fakenham, rector of Gaistorpe, together with the reversion of the dower of Marion, late wife of Jeffrey Bainard, who was still living.

In 1346, Aveline, late wife of Roger le Mene-waryn, was lady.

In 1349, Alice, late wife of Hugh de Buckenham, had it, and the same year Roger Bainard became lord, who was succeeded by Robert Bainard, who left a daughter, named Margery; she and John, son of sir John Furneaux, knt. and Alice Avenaunt, daughter of Rose Atte Wyk, of Fakenham *Parva*, niece to Robert Bainard, released all their rights to John Garlek, of Gashorpe, before 1361, and, about 1398, it was purchased of Walter Garlek by sir William Berdewell, of West Harling, knt. and joined to his manor of Uphall.

UPHALL, or BERDEWELL'S MANOR, was granted to John de Berdewell, who was Lord in 1285; at his death, Sarah his wife had it, she was daughter to sir John de Furneaux, and lady in 1290; and in 1333 sir William Berdewell released Uphall and Garlek's to his son, Robert, in whom all the three manors became united, and have passed as West Harling to this time.

In the custom roll of Westhall manor, made in sir John de Gatesthorp's time; this peculiar custom is entered: That every tenant of that manor, that marries out of the homage, is obliged to pay the lord a bed, bolster, sheet, and pillow; this was constantly observed, and there are abundance of entries in the rolls of such payments; but in the time of Richard II. the bed was omitted by the lord's kindness, *per misericordiam domini*, though the rest were paid in the time of queen Elizabeth, or a composition for them. Every woman that had a bastard paid 2s. 8d. leyrwite, but the widows did not so. The dower of this manor was a third part  
of

of all free and copyhold lands, and a moiety of all lands held in soccage.

It was fine certain, and the copyhold descended to the youngest son; the tenants could not plant, nor fell timber, nor waste their copyhold houses without licence. The greatest part (if not the whole) is purchased by the present lord, so that there are but few, if any tenants, at this time.

In 1419 the town of Gateshorpe held a piece of pasture called the Rodys, and then the cullet † that went in the lord's flock, and laid in his fold, paid as many small rents as amounted to 4s. per ann.

In 1390 Richard de Boyland's tenants, in Wilby, were attached to do fealty and homage to Easthall manor, and also the tenants of Winfothing for the same, and for one pound of pepper annual rent, issuing out of the tenement, and fifty acres of land, which lie between the way called Buckenhampgate, and the tenement of sir Hugh Le-Vere, and abutts on Winfothing town, the tythes of which belong, two garbs to Thetford monks, and one garb to Shelfhanger rector; this lay in Winfothing and Shelfhanger, on the road that leads from Shelfhanger to Winfothing. The rector of Winfothing paid 20s. to the monks of Thetford for his portion, and Shelfhanger rector 18d.

† Hence it appears that a cullet, (collecta) or collect of sheep, was a collection of different men's sheep, that had a right to go in the lord's flock, paying the usual yearly rents, and in such places where these cullets were, the office called the cullyorship was to collect those rents; for thus faith another old roll: Memorandum, " That tenant that beryth colyourshipp, ' gone yer, beryth the revelehypp the next yer.' "

KEMPE'S MANOR was that part which belonged to Bury Abbey: in 1288 Adam Kempe had it, and paid 2s. 6d. a year to that abbey; and in 1294 William Kempe, who gave part of it with his daughter, Lettice, in marriage to William de Norwich: In 1297 he was dead, and she married again to Simon de la Maynwaryn, of Harling, and that part fell into Easthall manor, the other part in 1330, at Emma Kempe's death, came to John Kempe, her son, and in 1341 was William Kempe's, by which time it was so far divided and aliened that there remained no rents.

This Norwich family was the most antient of any that lived here; we have seen a deed without date, by which John de Norwich, who lived at Gasthorpe, manumised Richard, son of William Godhewe, of Herling Parva, and all his posterity.

The leet belongs to the hundred, the lord of which is lord paramount, and hath waif, stray, and all other liberties, the lords of these manors not claiming any upon the *quo warranto's* brought, for each lord to set forth his privileges. The leet-fee is 12d.

Mrs. Margaret Gaudy gave 20s. per ann. to the poor of this parish, which is now paid by the parish of Garboldisham,

In 1603, here were 27 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are 9 houses, and about 60 inhabitants. It paid 38s. to the tenths, and is now assessed at about 15*l.* to the land tax.

EAST HARLING, or MARKET HARLING, is so called because it lies most east of all three; it belonged to Ketel the Dane, a freeman in the Confessor's

for's time, when it was one manor; Ingulf held it under William de Schoies, there being then a church and four acres of land belonging to it. The whole was two miles long, and two miles broad, and paid 17d. 1q. gelt.

The whole came to the earl Warren, and a part of it went with a younger branch of that family to the Bardolphs, held at half a fee; this after became Falconer's manor.

A quarter of a fee went to Robert Malet; another half fee went to Roger de Schovill; and the other fee and three quarters was held of the earl Warren, the whole making three fees, two fees and an half of which constituted the capital manor, called Felbrigg's, which was held by a family surnamed de Norfolk, the last of which was Gilbert de Norfolk, who died seised, leaving his five daughters coheiresses. The first married Eudo, son of Adam de Multon; the second, William de Verdon; the third, Roger Bigot, of Felbrigg; the fourth, William de Maynwaryn; the fifth, Robert de Aguillon, and each of them had a fifth part of the manor and advowson, which after this division became so many separate manors. Martina de Norfolk was Gilbert's sister, and William was her son, and both had lands here, but were not concerned in the manor.

MULTON'S MANOR was soon united to Bigot's, or Felbrigg's, for Eudo released it to sir Simon le Bigot, of Felbrigg, and so it fell into Felbrigg's immediately.

VERDON'S MANOR. William de Verdon, who married Maud, daughter of Gilbert de Norfolk, died before his wife, and she had her dower allowed her, it

it having been settled by them before his death on William de Lakenham, and Isabel, his wife; after whom Alexander de Vaux, of Keswick, and Margaret, his sister, had each a third part, about 1268; and in 1303 it was settled by fine on Simon le Bigot, and so united to Felbrigg's manor; but the 5th part of the advowson, which was excepted, passed from the Vaux's to the Hales, and so fell into Maynwaryn's manor.

**MAYNWARYN'S MANOR.** William de Maynwaryn had it by Emma, or Amy, his wife, daughter of Gilbert de Norfolk, and died in 1247. Agatha Maynwaryn was lady in 1315; from which time we meet with nothing of it till 1368, and then sir Roger de Hales had it, whose successor, Stephen de Hales, presented in right of his two fifth parts of the advowson; very soon after, in 1401, it belonged to sir John Gonville, with whose daughter and heiress it passed to sir Robert Herling, and so fell into the capital manor.

**AGUILON'S MANOR** went from Robert to Walter de Aguillon, and from him to Robert de Aguillon, who settled it on Simon le Bigot, of Felbrigg, for ten marks per ann. to be paid to the said Robert, at Flitcham, during his life, and thus it fell into Felbrigg's, or the capital manor. Roger le Bigot de Felbrigg, who was as often called Roger de Felbrigg, in right of Gilbert de Norfolk's daughter, whom he had married, had a fifth part of the manor and advowson; after him it descended in the family, and Simon le Bigot, of Felbrigg, held it of the earl Warren. In the time of Henry III. he purchased Aguillon's and Multon's parts.

In 1280 sir Roger le Bigot, of Felbrigg, had a charter of free-warren for his manors of Harling, Felbrigg, Runton, Melton, and Palling.

In 1303 Simon le Bigot, of Felbrigg, purchased Verdon's manor; this Simon had the whole by grant from William le Bigot, his brother, who was rector here; and in 1347 he conveyed the advowson, with one acre of land only, to him again. In 1350 they settled all but the acre and advowson on Nicholas Bourne, of Long Stratton, who left it to his two daughters and heiresses; Elizabeth, married to sir Thomas Jenny, knt. who in 1361 released all their right to Margaret, their sister, and John de Harling, her husband, and their heirs, who purchased the advowson of William Bigot, and so joined it to the manor again.

FALCONER, or FAWCONER'S MANOR, came with the younger branch of the earl Warren's family to the Bardolphs, and from them to Philip de Virlie, from him to John de Boyland, and from him to Ralph of Kenninghall, surnamed le Falconer.

In the reign of Edward III. John Falconer, of Kenninghall, who wife, Julian, died before him, in 1374, held her manors for life by the courtesy of England, they having then no living issue; she was daughter and coheiress of Thomas de Ormesby: her sisters were to inherit her manors at her husband's death. It was soon after in the Gonviles, but how it came to them we know not. The Falconers lived first at Kenninghall, and afterwards in the manor-house, which lay between Kenninghall and Harling, and is now called Hill-Harling, or Gelding-Hall. From the Gonviles it went with their heiress to the Har-

lings, and the whole being joined, it was called HARLING, or HERLING'S MANOR.

The Harlings were a family of great antiquity in this parish, from which they received their names; we find them mentioned in divers evidences without date, but as none of them were concerned in the lordship before John de Harling, about 1350, we shall begin with him in the following short account: "John de Harling died in 1392, buried here; his eldest son was sir John de Harling, knt. buried here; he had a daughter, Margaret, married to sir Robert Tuddenham, knt. and a son, sir Robert Harling, knt. who died in 1435 sole lord and patron; he married Joan, or Jane, heiress-general of Gonvile; Ann, their daughter and heiress, had three husbands, but no issue, so that it reverted to Margaret Tuddenham, her aunt, whose daughter, Margaret, married sir Edmund Bedingfield, knt. who sold it to sir Thomas Lovell, knt."

In 1360 John de Harling had free-warren allowed him in this manor, and those of Quidenham, Knattishall, Newton, and Corton, in Lothingland. In 1367 he settled this manor and advowson, Quidenham manor and advowson, the manor of Knattishall, manors in both Buckenhams, Croxton, and Rotheringham, and manor in Brettenham, on Thomas Heyward, master of Rushworth college, and other feoffees; he was a good soldier, and most expert manager of maritime affairs, upon which account, in 1342, he had the custody of the sea-water at Bristol during the king's pleasure. He was buried in the church of St. Peter and Paul at East Harling, (in Harling's chapel) according to his will, in which he ordered his best horse to be led before his corpse to the grave, as his principal, or mortuary, for the priest. He died seised of

of the aforesaid manors, with those of Long Stratton, and many others, leaving them all to his eldest son and heir, sir John de Harling, knt. who in 1389 settled several manors on his mother, then wife of sir John Tuddenham; he married Cecily, daughter and coheiress of sir Thomas Mortimer, of Attleburgh, knt. she brought a great estate to the Harlings.

Sir Robert Harling, knt. was a great warrior in France in the time of that victorious prince Henry V. whom he attended in 1412 at the siege of Meaux, which they took by assault, and during the rest of his life he was continually exercising arms in that kingdom, where he died like a brave soldier, in his camping, being killed by the French at Paris, as he endeavoured valiantly to defend that city, in the year 1435; from whence he was brought and buried in St. Mary's, or Harling chapel, under an altar-tomb in the south wall, in which he founded a perpetual chantry for his own and his ancestors souls, Jane, his wife, being buried with him. She brought him Larling manor and advowson, Rushworth manor, called Gonvile's, Fawconer's, and Maynwatyn's, all which, with one hundred acres in Mourningthorpe, were held at three fees of John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, as of his manor of Fornacet. Ann, his daughter and sole heiress, inherited; she lived to a great age, and married three husbands: first, sir William Chamberlain, of Gedding, in Suffolk, knight of the garter, a man of great renown, an able governor, and expert soldier, for during his being governor of Craill upon Oise, in France, which in 1435 was besieged by the French, immediately after they had taken Paris, he behaved himself so bravely, that with five hundred Englishmen only he issued out of the town, routed his enemies, flew two hundred of them, and took a great number prisoners. He is buried

ried in a fine arched monument, with his wife, on the north side of the chancel in Harling chapel.

Her second husband was sir Robert Wingfield, knt. he was comptroller of the houſhould to Edward IV. and a man of great interest at court. In 1474 the king granted him a charter for a weekly market every Tuesday, at his manor of East Harling, and two fairs every year\*, to last three days each, viz. one on the vigil, day, and morrow, of St. George the Maytyr, and another on the vigil, day, and morrow, of St. Edward. In the ſame year he poſſeffed many manors in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire, and large estates elsewhere. He died ſeized in 1480, after which ſhe married John lord Scroope, of Bolton, her third husband, in 1492, who died July 12, 1494, and was buried in the Black Friars church at Thetford, Ann, his wife, surviving him; ſhe was a lady remarkable for her gifts to many religious foundations: ſhe gave Larling manor and advowſon, and Gonvile's, in Rushworth, to that college, and obtained them a licence of mortmain to purchase forty marks a year; ſhe ſettled the ſtipend of her father's chantry priest in this church, and founded the seventh fellowship in Gonvile-hall, in the year 1502, being then lady Scroope; this ſhe endowed with the manor of Newenham, called Mortimer's, in Cambridge, with the water-mill there, 'all which ſhe gave for the maintenance of her fellow, who muſt be a priest, and of Norwich diocefe'; his ſtipend at the foundation was 8l. a year: ſhe had a great value for this college, being daughter and heiress of sir Robert Harling, by Jane, daughter and heiress of John Gonvile, esq. deſcended in a direct line from sir Nicholas Gonvile, knt. brother to the founder; ſhe was born in 1426.

and

\* The market and fairs are ſtill kept according to the grant.

and was alive in 1502, but having no issue, her estate went to Margaret, her aunt, who married sir Robert Tuddenham, knt, by whom she had five children; Joan, a nun, at Carrowe; Margaret, a nun, at Shouldham; Thomas, who died an infant; and Robert, who inherited, but died young and issueless, leaving Margaret, his sister, his sole heiress, who married sir Henry Bedingfield, of Oxburgh; he was made knight of the bath at the coronation of Edward III. He sold Harling manors and advowson to sir Thomas Lovell, knt. of the garter, and kept Quidenham; from which time it continued in the Lovells, till Thomas Wright, esq. purchased it, and dying December 30, 1735, left it to Mr. John Wright, his eldest son, lord and patron.

The stile of the court is *Herling cum Membris*, all the manors being now joined. The fines are at the lord's will, the eldest son is heir. The leet belongs to the hundred. The leet-fee is 3s. Blanche-farm 10d. Castle-ward 14d.

The family of the Lovells were very numerous, and were possessed of Barton-Bendish, in the hundred of Clackclose, for many generations before they settled here.

Sir Thomas Lovell, knight of the garter, was an active man in the time of Henry VII. In 1485, when he was an esquire only, he was made chancellor of the Exchequer for life; and the same year had an annuity of forty marks, as esquire to the King's body. In 1473 Henry Heydon, esq. granted him an annuity of 20s. out of his manner of Snoring *Parva*, called Dorketty's, for his good counsel that he had already, and should hereafter give him. He was first made banneret, and in 1487 was knighted at the

battle of Stoke, and afterwards installed knight of the garter. In 1502 he was treasurer of the household, and president of the council; he was one of the executors to the will of Henry VII. constable of the Tower, surveyor of the court of wards, steward and marshal of the house to Henry VIII. he built the gate-house at Lincoln's-Inn, and placed on it the king's arms, the earl of Lincoln's, and his own, by which it is probable he had been of that society; he built East Harling-hall, on the tower of which his arms still remain, and a brass bust of his own likeness, surrounded with the garter: he refounded Holliwell nunnery, near which he had a stately house, and dying at Enfield, May 25, 1524, was buried at Holliwell, in a fair chapel which he had built on the south side of the choir of that church, under a tomb of white marble. This priory was dedicated to St. John the Baptist, being situate in Shoreditch parish, by Norton Fallegate, London, and being much decayed, was rebuilt, and an addition made to its endowment by him, which occasioned the following verses to be inscribed on a wall of that house:

*All ye nunns of Haliwell,  
Pray ye both day and night,  
For the soul of sir Thomas Lovell,  
Whom Harry the Seventh made knight.*

By his will, dated Oct. 14, 1522, proved Sept. 26, 1528, he gave his Manor-place at Enfield, called Elsing, (where he died) to Thomas Manners, lord Roos, and to his cousin, sir Francis Lovell, knt. all his manors and estates in Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, Middlesex, Kent, Oxfordshire, and Wilts.

Sir Francis Lovell died Jan. 21, 1550, and Thomas, his son, inherited all the possessions that sir Thomas

Thomas Lovell, knight of the garter, gave to his father. In this family it remained till Gregory Lovell, esq. who was of that disposition that he did all he could to ruin the estate, being too malicious against his half brother, and in order thereto, he let the manor-house almost down, and when he perceived his death\* grew near, married his servant on purpose to keep his brother out of it for her life, he having liberty to jointure by the entail. He gave a personal estate of above 6000l. to see his will performed, to Sir John Buckworth, and Mr. Borret, of Griston, his executors, from whom John Lovell, esq. met with more kindness and generosity than from his brother, they being so just as to deliver up all the evidences, and whatever belonged to the estate, to him, without any disturbance, notwithstanding which he was forced to sell it, having prevailed upon his son, Mr. Lovell, of Buckenham, to join with him in the sale.

In 1720, Dec. 19, the Rev. Robert Wright, A. B. was presented rector by Thomas Wright, esq. he was doctor of divinity, rector of Knattishall, in Suffolk, and of the sinecure rectory of Hackney, and prebendary in the church of Litchfield. He was again presented by the crown in 1738; the Rev. Edward Addison had this rectory in 1776; and the Rev. Leonard Addison in 1777, by gift of the crown,  
*p. h. v.*

The rectory of East Harling hath a rectory-house, and several acres of glebe, and is rated in the king's books at 12l.

The church is dedicated to Sts. Peter and Paul; and is a fine uniform building, having its nave, two

\* He died in 1693.

ailes, and south porch leaded, a square tower, with a spire thereon, and free-stone balustrades instead of battlements ; it was built by sir William Chamberlain, as appears from the many blank shields, encompassed with the garter, cut on the stones, finished about 1449, but the bells were not put up till 1465 : the greatest part of the church, if not the whole, was re-built by that knight, the windows (as the arms and effigies of them discover) were finished by sir Robert Wingfield, who married his widow, whose effigies, with that of his wife, still remain.

At the east end of the south aisle is a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary, called Harling's chapel, it being the burial place of that family, sir Robert Harling, knt. (who rebuilt it) lies under an altar-tomb, in an arch in the south wall; he founded a chantry of one priest in this chapel — In 1458 it was endowed by sir William Chamberlain, and Anne, his wife, with nine marks annual rent, issuing out of Falconer's manor, then worth twenty marks a year ; according to sir Robert's will, he ordered, that if he died without heirs, then his manors of East-Harling, Quidenham, with their advowsons, Buckenham-wood, and Knattishall manor, should be settled for three chantry priests in this chapel, but if he left a daughter, then she was only obliged to settle a provision for one priest. It was not rated to any taxes whatever, but had institution in the same manner as the rectory.

The preamble to the king's licence, which he granted to amortise the said rent, is very particular, for it says, "that his majesty granted this licence to his faithful counsellor, sir William Chamberlain, knt. without any fine or fee, in consideration

of

of the great and eminent service he had done him in his kingdom of France, and Duchy of Normandy, in the war there, and in other places, and particularly for the great damage he and his family received, by paying his fine of redemption to the king's enemies of France, (who took him prisoner in 1446,) and also for the great value he had for sir Robert Harling, the founder, who died in his service as he warr'd in France."

This sir Robert Harling ordered in his will, if he died in England, to be buried here, and so he was, though he died in the French wars at Paris, his effigy, with that of his wife, beautifully carved in marble, lie on the top of the altar-tomb; on his breast are his own arms and those of Mortimer, his mother; he looks with a grim visage, his feet rest on a lion, the usual emblem of those that died in war; his lady hath a water-bouget on her breast, the whole tomb being adorned with unicorns, and pelicans, the one the crest of Harling, the other of Gonvile: his arms are on the top, supported by two unicorns; they are often on the screens of the chantry, and sometimes with crescents.

On the table that they lie on is a fillet of brass which still remains very perfect, on which is a Latin inscription. He died Sept. 9, 1435.

On the same side of this chapel is a stately tomb of different coloured marble, encompassed with an iron grate; the statues of a man in armour with a peacock's tail proper at his feet, and of a woman, with two naked arms, holding a head erased, bearded and hair'd fab. lie on an altar-tomb, under a canopy, or bed of state, with an inscription to sir Thomas Lovell, knt. son and heir of sir Thomas Lovell, knt.

knt. who died Dec. 12, 1604, aged 64; she died Sept. 1, 1600, age p64. At the head is Huddleston's arms, and at the feet Lovell's; at the top Lovell's arms and quarterings, mantle and crest; on the side three escutcheons, one of which is Lovell and his quarterings, impaling Huddleston and his quarterings, viz. Knevett, Nevill, Montague, Monthermer, Holland, earl of Kent, with England in a bordure ar. Tiptoft, Inglethorp, Bradeston, Charlton, lord Powis, Delapole, and az. on a fess indented three bezants.

In a south window were the portraiture of a man in armour kneeling, in long gray hair, having on his surcoat the arms of Chamberlain, with a label, and opposite to him a woman kneeling; between them were these arms, Chamberlain impaling Legat, Herling and Mortimer, of Attleburgh, quartered; Tuddenham, quartering Herling; Gonville single; Herling, impaling Hemgrave; Bedingfield, and Herling, quartered; Mortimer, quartering Giffard; Charleton lord Powis; Wingfield, quartering Bovile; Scroop, quartering Tiptoft; Chamberlain, quartering Fitz-Raffe; Fitz Raffe, quartering—gul; two bendlets ar. Coniers, quartering Fitz-Raffe.

In a high east window of the nave, Tiptoft, and----az. a bend or.

On the north windows of the nave, Windham, impaling Howard; Legat, impaling Warren; Erpingham, Bolleyn, quartering Butler; Heydon, quarterly, impaling Bolleyn; Calthorpe, impaling Stapleton; Hevenyngham, impaling Darcy; Wingfield, quartering Doreward and Bovile; Wingfield, impaling Fitz-Lewis, Brandon, Glanvile, and Honipot; Jenuy

Jenny impales Wingfield, and so does Echingham and Bovile; Framlingham; Delapole, quarters Wingfield; sir Robert Harling, and Jane Gonville, his wife, with their arms,

In the south aisle windows, Scroop and Tiptoft, quartered, with their effigies. Also, effigies of a Fitz-Williams and his wife, who was a Harling.

In the windows of Harling chapel, sir Robert Harling, and Jane his wife, sir William Chamberlain, and Anne his wife, with their arms on their surcoats, and in the east window over the altar this:—*Orate pro animabus Willi: Chamberlayn, militis, et Anne uxoris ejus, et Roberti Harlyng, militis, et Joanne uxoris.*

The screens between the church and chancel are finely carved and painted, being put up by sir Robert Harling, whose arms and crest are often carved thereon.

The chancel is leaded, having two chapels joined to the north side; that most east is dedicated to the blessed name of Jesus, the other to St. Anne; they are both leaded.

On the south side of the chancel wall, towards the east end, is a stone mural monument, on which Lovell, and Muswell, joined per fess, impale Paris, with Lovell's crest; sir Thomas Lovell, knt. and Elizabeth, his lady. He died, March 23, 1567; she March 31, 1591.

Opposite, on the north side, another monument of the same kind, but no inscription.—Lovell and Muswell, impaling Ashfield, of Middlese. Lovell's crest.

The

The arms shew it was erected for sir Francis Lovell, and Anne Ashfield, his wife; he died Jan. 25, 1550.—This is against Jesus chapel, which is now a school-house.

More west, in the north wall, is a most stately arched monument, disrobed of it's brasses, under which lie buried sir William Chamberlain, knight of the garter, and Anne his wife, daughter and heiress of sir Robert Harling: this divides the chancel from St. Ann's chapel, which was founded by his lady, and dedicated to her name's-sake. The tomb fronts both into the chancel and the chapel, the chancel side being adorned with his arms, &c. and the chapel's side with hei's; in the arch is carved Chamberlain's arms, quartering Tiptoft, which is again cut on the side of the monument next the chancel, with mantle, crest, and supporters.

On the chapel's side, Harling and Mortimer quartered, with an escutcheon of pretence of Gonville and Harling; crest and supporters.

In a manuscript of Henry St. George, garter king at arms, is a part of the inscription that was on this monument, and this remark made by Mr. Le-Neve.—“ That here were their two effigies, and that the garter was on his left leg, and though Mr. Ashmole says, that Fitz-William's tomb was the oldest, and had it so placed, yet this is older.”

Many of the memorials which were in this church are now lost, one account of them was taken by the Rev. Mr. Leverland, rector of Framlingham-castle, in Suffolk, and others by different persons, as Mr. Borret, of Griston, Henry St. George, &c.

In

In this church is buried Elizabeth Trussell, sister to sir William Chamberlain, who died April 30, 1472, but the four shields and inscription were lost before these accounts were taken.

Charles Wright, esq. lately glazed the east chancel window, with ancient glass that he found in his house, which formerly came out of this window, and contains the principal passages of the New Testament, from our Saviour's incarnation to his crucifixion.—The effigies of sir Robert Wingfield, and his wife, are now placed in this window.

In 1536 the church-wardens, and inhabitants, sold to sir Francis Lovell, kn<sup>t</sup>. and his heirs, twenty-one acres and one rood plowed ground of their town land, lying in East Harling, and he in 1538 granted thirty-two acres and an half to the inhabitants, to be town land *for ever*.—In the time of James I. the feoffees made a new feoffment of the town land to others, there being then sixty acres, besides a pightle called Wastell's.—These lands were given to repair and adorn the church; the temporals of the prior of Buckenham in this town were taxed at 2s. 4d.

These arms were formerly in Harling-hall windows; Lovell, impaling Bendish, Muswell, Roos, Woodhouse, Dethick, Huddleston, Pakenham, Ashfield, Brandon, and Harling; Thomburgh, Colton, Vaux, Chamberlain, and Legate; Mortimer and Gonville. The badges of the red and white rose, of the pomegranate, of a lizard gul. his tongue or. —the arms of Henry VIII. impaling Castile, Leon, and Granada.

Stephen

Stephen de Giffing, and Lucy Maynwaryn, his wife, for 26s. in hand, paid by deed, dated on St. Dunstan's day, in 1283, released to Simon Maynwaryn, and his heirs, all manner of actions that they might bring against him, for not building her houses in Harling, that she was to have had built for her, in lieu of part of her dower, and they bound themselves, their heirs, and executors, in 60s. penalty, that no such action should be brought, and subjected themselves to the bishop of Norwich, or his official, in this case, who should excommunicate them if the penalty was not paid; further obliging themselves to pay 100s. towards the relief of the Holy-Land, if ever any such action was brought, and to confirm it, they promised it before sir William de Crunethorpe, knt. Master Elias Aliune Cherche, rector of East Harling, sir Geffry de Gerbaudesham, chaplain, and others.—We could not omit taking notice of this deed, the penalties being remarkable.

The market is on Tuesdays, and not on Thursdays, as the Atlas, and the late description of the diocese of Norwich (which is chiefly a transcript from thence), tell you, though it is right as to its being chiefly for linen-yarn, and cloth, the manufacture of this part of the county. This town in 1603 had 223 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are about 400 inhabitants. It paid 6l. 6s. 8d. tenths, and is now assessed at 638l. 11s. 8d. to the land tax.

WEST HARLING, or HERLING, which is so called to distinguish it from the other Harlings. Here were several manors. At the survey the manor was a berewic belonging to Kenninghall manor, with which it was held by the Confessor and Conqueror, and was granted as a member of it to the Albanys, who in

in the time of Henry I. infeoffed it in the Angervilles, a family surnamed from a place in Normandy, where they were lords; it was to be held at half a fee of the manor of Kenninghall, as of the castle of Buckenhain.

In the time of Henry II. sir Benedict de Angerville was lord, who died without issue male, leaving his three daughters his heiresses: the first married William de Snitterton, otherwise called Bokenham, of Snitterton, as his family always continued to be called, viz. sometimes de Snitterton, and sometimes de Bokenham de Snitterton. The second married Nicholas de Bello-Foco, Bello-Fago, or Beaufo. The third married sir Andrew de Sharnbourn; she died without issue in the time of king John, and her part reverted to her sisters and their heirs, so that now it divided into two manors, each held at a quarter of a fee of the said earl's, the one called Buckenham's, and the other Beaufo's,

BUCKENHAM, or BOKEHAM'S MANOR, being thus come to sir William de Bokenham de Snitterton, it descended in his family for many ages, being held at a quarter of a fee of the earl of Arundel, and he of the king, the relief of which was 10s. till in 1401 Hugh Bokenham, of Livermere, son and heir of Hugh de Bokenham, of Snitterton, released to Robert Bardewell, esq. all his right in Buckenham's manor, in West Harling, which was sold to sir William Bardewell, knt. by Hugh Bokenham, his father, and thus this manor was joined to Bardewell's.

The Bokenhams still had divers lands here, for in 1479 Edmund Bokenham, esq. by will, ordered 2s. 8d. to be distributed among his poor servants of Snitterton, Shropham, Hargham, and Harling.

The

The fishery solely belonged to the lord, exclusive of all the tenants.

BEAUFO'S MANOR came to Nicholas de Bello-Fago, or Beaufo, in right of his wife as aforesaid, and descended with his family till 1326, when Nicholas de Beaufo settled the manor and advowson on himself for life, remainder to Thomas Bardewell, and Amy, his wife, daughter of the said Nicholas, and their heirs; from which time it was joined to Bardewell's manor, as was the advowson, the whole of which at first belonged to Angerville's manor, and with that divided one moiety to Buckenham's, and the other to Beaufo's, till Ralph de Bokenham sold his moiety, with an acre and half of land, to Hugh de Beaufo, and then this manor had the whole advowson.

FURNEAUX'S MANOR, after called BARDEWELL'S, passed with Middle Harling, of which it was a part in the Conqueror's time, and so continued till sir John Furneaux, knt. gave it in marriage with Sarah, his daughter, to John de Bardewell, to be held of the earl of Bretaigne, as of Richmond honor, at half a fee, and this was the first possession that the Bardewells ever had in any of the Harlings: soon after which, in 1280, it was called Bardewell's, or East Thorpe Manor, by reason of its lying east of the church, (as Hackford-hall manor was sometimes called West Thorpe, or Harling Thorpe, which name it still retains, on account of its lying west of the church) and to distinguish it from Furneaux, or Middle Harling manor, to which it joined; and from this time all these manors went in the Bardewell family.

The fines are certain, at 4s. an acre, whether land, meadow, or pasture, and no regard to houses, or homestalls,

homestalls, they being included in the content; it gives no dower, the lands descend according to the common law; for those lands that are heriotable, the heriot is the best beast; but if they have no beast, there is no heriot due; they cannot waste their copyhold, nor fell timber, (unless to repair their copyhold) without licence. Childwite is due to the lord, which is 2s. 8d. of every woman, bond tenant, that hath a bastard. Chevage is also paid to the lord, it being a fine for every bond tenant for liberty to live out of the lordship, and women pay it as well as men, viz. 1d. a year each head. Bosage is also paid here, which is 1d. a head yearly for all cows and great cattle that feed on the commons; every ten sheep of the cullet that laid in the lord's fold paid 1d. a year. West Fenn common, at Thorpe End, belonged solely to the manor, all the tenants were obliged to grind at the lord's mill, and the fishery of all the manors belonged solely to the lord. Foldage is a custom of this manor, that every five sheep that go with the lord's, whether they be of the cullet, or not, if the owners will not let them lie in the lord's fold, but will fold them in their own grounds, they must pay 1d. a year each five; the bond tenants cannot sell any male young cattle of their own breeding without the lord's licence.

HACKFORD-HALL MANOR, afterwards Seckford, or West Thorpe, and now Harling Thorpe. This manor was in two parts in the Confessor's and Conqueror's times; the first was in Bury abbey from its first foundation; the second in one Anti's hands, in the Confessor's days, and Robert de Verli's in the Conqueror's; from whom it came to the earl Warren, and went with the possessions of the younger branch of that family to the Bardolphs, by them in-

F feoffed

feoffed in sir Adam de Methweld, of whom sir William de Hackford had it.

The abbey's part in the Conqueror's time was in Richard, by feoffment of abbot Baldwin, who held it of the abbey at one fee; and from that time it passed as Hastings' manor, in Gissing, till Hugh de Hastings, steward to Henry I. inf feoffed sir William de Hackford, kn. who held it also at one fee, paying 18d. every twenty weeks to the abbot, to the ward of Norwich castle, which tenure continued till after 1360; for then Framlingham Gaudy, esq. paid it to the crown, in right of the dissolved monastery of Bury; it paid then 2s. a year for suit to the hundred court, and 9d. every twenty weeks to the lord of the hundred for castle ward, for Bardolph's part.

The customs are the same now as the other manors, but were different formerly; for in 1634 the copyhold descended to the youngest son, and it gave a moiety dower. It was then fine certain, at 4s. an acre. The bofage, foldage, and chevage, were the same as in the other manors, but the childwite was not certain, but at the lord's will. They could sell all manner of beasts that they bred, and this custom prevailed here, that every copyholder that married paid the lord a bolster, sheet, and pillow, or fined for them, except the tenants called Molmen, who were not subject to this custom.

In 1346 there was a free tenement, and forty-two acres of land, in Illington, held of this manor by Peter de Easthall, and also an annual rent of 1d. a year paid to St. John of Jerusalem's hospital at Carnbrooke, for the souls of the lord's ancestors; and the brethren of St. John's college at Rushworth had annually a fat lamb delivered them. The parish of Middle Harling held one acre and an half of this manor

manor, and paid 6d. free-rent. The ewes of the flock were milked daily, by people hired by the lord for that purpose. It extended into all the Harlings, Quidenham, Rushford, Shadwell, and Illington. Sir William de Hackford, or Akeford, knt. and his heirs, held both the parts of the manor as aforesaid. They held it but a little while, for in 1278 sir William de Hackford, a man that did much service in the Scotch wars, settled the manor in trust for his two daughters, his heiresses; after this he purchased many lands in Harling of Adam de Raveningham, and settled them for their use on his trustee, who farmed the manor, and kept courts in his own name, as farmer of it.

Sir John de Seckford, of Suffolk, knt. became lord in 1331, in right of Joan, his wife, the eldest daughter of sir William de Hackford, Henry de Elmham, and Elizabeth, his wife who was sir William's other daughter, having released all their right in it to sir John, and his lady, who released to them all their right in that part of their demesnes that lay in Bridgham, and in the whole manor of Hackford-hall, in Fringe; he is sometimes called de Schiford, Sedgeford, Segford, and Seecford.

Thomas Seckford, esq. lord of Seckford, in Suffolk, died in 1507, leaving Thomas Seckford, esq. of Great Bealings, in Suffolk, his heir. He and his father's surviving seoffees sold it to George Nunne, of Tostock, in Suffolk, clothier; and in 1564 the said George and John, his son and heir, sold it to Bassingbourne Gaudy, of Mendham, in Suffolk, esq. From this time it was joined to the other manors, and so continues.

The manor-house hath been down many ages; for in 1398 the lord lived at Seckford, and had a pond,

or pool, in the late scite of the manor, called Seckford-hall-yard-close, in West Harling.

In 1504, after a suit between the lord and the prior of the monks of St. Mary at Thetford, the lord agreed for the future to pay 2s. a year to that monastery, out of lands, called Gildensleves, which were joined to the manor by purchase, and did always heretofore pay 2s. 6d. a year.

The family of the Bardewells took their name from the town of Bardwell, or Berdewelle, in Suffolk, where they lived in the Conqueror's time, when Baldwin, abbot of Bury, infeoffed Ralph de Bardewell of that manor; they always bear for their rebus, or device, a bear with a well on his back, and these two letters, *d. e.* which can't but make Bear-de-well, or Berde-welle.

In 1196 William, son of Ralph de Bardewell, held Bardewell at two fees; and this family afterwards held Gastorpe, Beaufoe's manor in this town, Thorpe, in Suffolk, and Furneaux's manor here.

Sir William Bardewell, knt. the great warrior, was born in 1367, for in the 9th of Henry IV. (*anno 1407*) he was forty years old, being then one of the knights summoned as witnesses for sir Edw. Hastings, of Elsing, in the cause between him and sir Reginald Grey, lord Ruthyn, concerning the arms of Hastings, in which he swore, that he was a soldier with sir Hugh Hastings, the defendant, in the voyage made by sir John Arundell on the sea, and saw sir Hugh bear the arms of—or, a maunch gul. with a label of three points arg.—In the voyage of sir Malves de le Ile; in the voyage of Richard II. into Scotland. In Bretaigne, in the deceased duke of Lancaster's voyage  
into

into Spain, and that he always understood that the label was borne by the next heir, according to the usage of England, as the prince of Wales bears it, and was the conusance of the next heir. In 1382 he was retained by sir John Clifton, of Buckenham-castle, to serve him with seven men at arms, and six archers on horseback, in the voyage of Croyferye, and of the king, for one year, for 100 marks, for himself, with bouche de court\*, and for his seven men at arms, and six archers, 392 marks, to be paid half down, and the rest quarterly, as the bishop of Norwich should pay sir John Clifton.

In 1387 he covenanted with the lord Camoys to serve under him in the expedition at sea, under the command of the lord Arundel, then admiral of England, for four months, with two esquires sufficiently armed, and three archers, and each of his men of arms to have one servant to carry their bayonets, sir William to find them wages, who was to have eighteen marks for his own service, and twenty marks for his archers, and bouche de court for all his retinue, all of them to be ready at Southampton the 4th of May following, and if any great chieftain was taken in the war, by sir William, or his retinue, the lord Camoys was to have him, giving sufficiently to him and his men that should take him.

In the year 1400 Michael De-la-Pole, earl of Suffolk, granted him an annuity of 20l. during his life, out of his castle, manor, and honor, of Eye, in Suffolk, in recompence for the good and agreeable service that sir William had done him in times past, and shall do him in time to come, both in war and peace;

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and

\* Bowge of court, is a certain quantity of provisions allowed to a servant, in the palace of a prince, or house of a nobleman.

and upon this sir William obliged himself to serve the earl with one squire, two servants, and five horses, all which were to have bouche de court at the earl's expence, and if he travelled in England, "at the earl's command, he was to be allowed reasonable expences; and in time of war he was to find as many men at arms, and archers on horseback, as he could, all which the earl was to pay as the king paid him, and he was to have two parts of their ransom, and the earl the other third part, but no prisoner was to be delivered up without the earl's licence. In this year he did homage to Thomas earl of Arundel and Surrey, for his lands in Harling, held of Castle Acre manor: he died in October, 1434, and gave to the reparation of Bardwell church 40s. and 20s. to repair the roads; he gave 20l. to his daughter, Isabel, and to Robert, his son and heir, his basilard, and all his gilt armor, his best girdle, with his loose gown, furr'd with beaver: he died possessed of the manors of Bardwell, Buckenham, and Beaulo, in West Harling; Garleck-hall, in Gafthorpe; Belaugh, Norton, Wicken, Bardwell, Wickes, in Bardwell, and Thorpe, in Suffolk: he was buried at Bardwell, where he chiefly resided, in a north window of which church a curious effigy of him still remains, very perfect.

His second son, Robert Bardewell, of Belaugh, esq. (who built the old hall at Harling, and first settled there) became his heir; who in 1439 did homage to the earl of Arundel, for West Harling; and in 1446 to Ralph lord Cromwell and Tateshale, for Gafthorpe: this Robert was one of those gentlemen of ancient coat armor, who were chose by the justices of this county to serve the king in his wars as recruits, as appears by the original privy seal and return, now lying in the court of receipt of the Exchequer,

chequer, at Westminster, in ragged bag. He died Jan. 22, 1455, and was buried with his first wife, on the north side of the altar, in this chancel; his stone is now much broken and defaced; it hath Bardewell's coat, impaling three nags heads cooped, the three other coats being lost, as is part of the circumscriptio.

William Bardewell, senior, of West Harling, esq. his son and heir, had two wives, by whom he had thirty sons and daughters: by Eleanor, his first wife, he had the manors of Middle Harling and Kimberley.

In 1441 the duke of Norfolk, by deed, dated at his castle of Framlingham, granted to his beloved servant, William Bardewell, sen. esq. an annuity of ten marks, for the good services that he had done him: we have seen his will, of his own hand writing, from which the following extract is taken:

*Jesu mercye! Mary helpe!*

" *In Dei nomine, Amen.* I Welyam Berdewell the  
" holder, *sana mente & bona memoriae*, qwan I pas  
" hawt of this misery werd, I beqwethe my sowle to  
" the Trenite, Fadir, Sone, and Holye Goyst, three  
" personis, and one God, my bodye to be beryed in  
" the chanfel of Westharlyng, on the south side, be-  
" fore Seynt John, betweene bothe my wyvys. And  
" I besette to the hey awtyr xs. & to the churche odyr  
" xs. also to the lytys on the candlestekys afore the  
" hey awtyr odyr xs. and to the feywe joys afore  
" our Lady odyr xs. And also I besette a veyst-  
" mente to the hey awtyr, and to the place of the  
" frerys at Thetforth xs. and to the chapell of our  
" Lady in Thetforth odyr xs. also xs. to Medylhar-  
" lyng, & a nobyl to the frerys of Babwell. Odyr  
" xs. to the kwyte freris of Norwiche; and also for to

" be preyd for in the townys abowte me, and nowght  
 " to labour, I besette to Hest Harlynge chirche a no-  
 " byl, and sorte denar; and to Gatyfshorp a nobyl,  
 " viij. sheep to Trenety geld, (at West Herling) to  
 " the channowyns (at Thetford) xs. and to the nunys  
 " ther odyr xs. to prey to God for me, and to the  
 " hey awter of Seint Marye chirche of Thetforthe  
 " xs. and xs. to our Ladi (at West Harling) and a  
 " nobyl to the chirche. (He gave a good legacy to  
 " his) son, Peter, to prey for (him) and for (his)  
 " weyfwys, with fadyr & modir, and ai odyr frendys,  
 " qwiche past the werd, &c."

His effigy, bare-headed, with a greyhound at his feet, and his sword and spurs on, still remains, and two escutcheons, one of Bardewell quartering Mortimer, and the other of Bardewell and Pakenham, and an inscription.

William Bardewell, jun. esq. his son and heir, succeeded: his effigy remains on his stone, which is bare-headed, and in armour, his wife's being in a bonnet. The arms of Bardewell and Witchingham are first single, and then impaled.

He was succeeded by his son, William Bardewell, of Harling, esq. who married Margaret, daughter of John Framlingham, of Crow's-Hall, in Debenham; they both died in one week, *anno* 1508, seised of Drayton-hall manor, in Scarning, and Dillington, Kelling, Salthouse, Gasthorpe, West and Middle Harling manors, and advowsons, and were buried together in the nave of this church: his effigy, bare-headed, with that of his wife, by him, with their escutcheons, still remain, and an inscription.

In

In 1589 Robert Bardewell, esq. as heir male of the family, released Limbourne manor to Bassingbourne Gaudy, esq.

Robert Bardewell, of West Harling, esq. died in the king's service, beyond sea, in 1512; he had only one daughter, viz. Elizabeth Bardewell, who was but one year old at her father's death, and her wardship fell to sir Edward Howard, knt. of whom Scarning, &c. was held, in right of lady Morley, sir Edward's wife, who in 1512 sold it, immediately after her father's death, to William Wooton, his executor; and he sold it with her marriage to sir Robert Southwell, knt. who married her to John Wooton, of North Tuddenham, who confirmed the exchange lately made, of Salthouse, and Kelling manors, which were lately the Witchinghams, and Bardewells, for Drayton-hall, in Scarning. He kept his first court here in 1528, and in 1536 his wife died, after which he married a daughter of Nevill, lord Abergavenny, widow of lord Dacre.

By Elizabeth, his first wife, he left one only daughter, Ann, whose wardship John Millicent, esq. sold in 1545 to sir Anthony Rouse, it belonging to him as lord of Bergham manor, of which the manor of Middle Harling is held, as parcel of the honor of Richmond: she had three husbands; first, sir Thomas Woodhouse, of Waxham, (William Woodhouse having purchased her guardianship of sir Anthony Rouse in 1547) by whom she had no issue, nor by Henry Reppes, of Mendham, esq. her second husband, who kept his first court in 1551, and was dead before 1556; for in that year Bassingbourne Gaudy, esq. second son of Thomas Gaudy, serjeant at law, her third husband, kept his first court, and held Middle Harling of Robert Berney, as of his manor of Bergham,

Bergham, by the service of half a fee, and 5s. per annum; he was afterwards knighted. In 1564 he purchased Seckford manor, and thus all the manors in West Harling, Middle Harling, and Gasthorpe, came to the Gaudys. She was buried at Harling, July the 9th, 1594.

Sir Bassingbourne Gaudy, knt. died seised, Jan. 25, 1569, of all the manors, together with Limbourne, in Homersfield, Roudham, Drayton-hall, &c. leaving two sons, Bassingbourne, and sir Philip.

He was succeeded by Bassingbourne Gaudy, esq. his son and heir, when Thomas Gaudy, of Gaudy-hall, his uncle, was trustee for Seckford's manor. This Bassingbourne held West Harling of the earl of Arundel, Middle Harling of the queen, as of her honor of Richmond, at half a fee, Seckford's of the dissolved abbey of Bury, at 3s. yearly rent, Drayton-hall of the lady Morley, and Gasthorpe of Philip Knevet, esq. he was thrice sheriff of Norfolk, viz. in 1573, in 1593, and in 1601, when he was a knight. He had two wives; the first was Ann, daughter of sir Charles Framlingham, of Debenham; she was an heiress, and brought the whole estate of the Framlinghams. His second wife was Dorothy, daughter of sir Nicholas Bacon, of Redgrave. He died the 23d of May, 1606, leaving issue by both his wives; by the last he had two sons and two daughters; by the first he had two sons. Framlingham Gaudy, esq. the eldest, was born the 8th of August, 1589. In 1627 he was sheriff of Norfolk, and afterwards one of the deputy lieutenants of that county, by commission from Henry earl of Northampton, then lord lieutenant; he married Lettice, daughter and coheiress of sir Robert Knowles, knt. his guardian, who was buried here the 3d of December, 1630, by sir

sir Robert, her father, who was buried Jan. 20, 1618. He was buried February 25, 1654, by his father-in-law, leaving six sons and two daughters. William Gaudy, esq. the eldest son, was created baronet July 13. 1663; he had four sons and one daughter; Bassingbourne, the eldest, died unmarried, at London. Sir John Gaudy, bart. his second son and heir, was born October 4, 1639, being deaf and dumb, notwithstanding which he was an admirable painter, and a most ingenious man; he married Ann, daughter of sir Robert de Grey, of Merton, knt. by whom, at his death, in 1699, he left one son and one daughter. Sir Bassingbourne Gaudy, bart. his son and heir, died unmarried, on Thursday, Oct. 10, 1723, of a bruise in his privities, which he received by his horse's stumbling as he was hunting; he was wrapt in scar-cloth, and buried in a leaden coffin, in our Lady's chapel, in this church, which is lately taken down, (a faculty being obtained for that purpose) and his grave, raised with bricks over it, is now to be seen in the church-yard, on the south side, where the chapel stood; he left three nieces, his heirs, they being daughters of his sister, Ann, by Oliver le Neve, of Great Witchingham, esq. their son, Oliver, dying without issue in 1686, viz. Isabella, then single; Ann, married to John Rogers, of Stanfورد, licentiate in physic; and Henrietta, married to Edward le Neve, gent. only son of Edward le Neve, citizen and merchant-taylor, of London; who all joined and conveyed the whole estate to Joshua Draper, esq. he sold it to Richard Gibbs, esq. lord and patron, who purchased all this and Middle Harling, and built a neat seat, which was begun by Mr. Draper, who pulled down the old hall, called Bardewell-hall, the scite of which joined to the south-east corner of the church-yard, and began this new building in the place where the old one stood.

Richard

Richard Gibbs, esq. left this estate to his nephew, —— Croftes, esq. and his son, Richard Croftes, esq. late member for the university of Cambridge, is the present lord.

The leets of the two towns belong to the duke of Norfolk's hundred of Guiltcross, to which hundred-court each town paid 6d. leet-fee, and 7d. a piece for blanche-farm, 6s. for three suit fines, and 7d. a piece for castle-ward.

In 1603 there were 132 communicants in this parish, and now (Blomefield) there are about six or seven houses, and sixty inhabitants; it is now assedged with Middle Harling at 427l.

Bardewell-hall was a fine old embattled stone building, moated round; it was demolished in 1725; there was a family chapel in it anciently, and the following arms were in the parlour, and other windows, when it was pulled down, viz. Bardewell impaling Walcote, Mortimer, of Attleburgh, Furneaux, Witchingham, Framlington, Wotton, Jenney, Pakenham, Glanvile, Southwell, and L'Estrange; Gaudy impaling Bassingbourne, Bodigan, Knowles, and Knightly; Bassingbourne Gaudy, 1593, impales Framlington and his quarterings, viz. Lee, Borne, Tiptoft, Charlton, Holland, Inglethorp, Bradston, and De-la-Pole; Framlington impales Neville and his quarterings, viz. Neville, Montacute, Monthermer, Holland, earl of Kent, England in a bordure, ar. Wake, Estottevill, Burgh, Jeffery, and Scotham.

Here was a family surnamed Tunes-end, or Towns-end, in 1290. In 1302 William atte Tunes-end lived here. In 1377 William atte Tunes-end was rector of Middle Harling. They were all considerable

desirable owners, and most of them sealed with the present arms of the Townsend family.

On a very old musket barrel that hung in the hall was this:—*Furivs je suis, mais sans feu, je ne puis*—which was thus translated:

*Full I am, 'tis true, of ire,  
But can do nothing without fire.*

In 1550 sir Thomas Woodhouse, of Waxham, knf. confirmed to Robert Barret two acres of meadow, which he had among other lands, of the grant of Edward VI. in the 2d year of his reign, it being given for an anniversary to be kept here. Other lands were formerly held for charitable and religious purposes.

The church is dedicated to All Saints, having its nave and chancel, tiled, a square tower, with a tall free-stone spire on it; there were but three bells till Joshua Draper, esq. when he resided here, had them new run, and added two new ones.

These arms were lately in the windows, though now several of them are lost, the monuments here having suffered much when the old hall was pulled down, by the workmen working in the church: Harling, Tuddenham, Bardewell, Pakenham, Furneaux, and Denny. There were several effigies of the Bardewells, in red habits, (that being the colour of the field of their arms) and in the belfry window were Bardewell's and Seckford's arms.

On the south side of the church was a chapel, dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin, called Bardewell's chapel, not, as we imagine, because that family was buried in it, (for we meet with none) but because it belonged

belonged to Beaufo's manor, which came early to the Bardewells. This, in all probability, was founded by Nicholas de Beaufo, but whoever was its founder, he was interred, or rather immured, in its south wall, for it falling to decay very lately, a faculty was obtained to take it down, and in so doing, the body of the founder appeared to be laid in a stone coffin, inclosed in the south wall, which (by the late patron's order) was preserved as it was found, and being covered with bricks, now lies undisturbed, in the nature of an altar-tomb. We are told there was a small silver thing, like a candlestick, in the coffin, but rather think it to have been a crucifix.

In this chapel there was but one stone inscribed, and that being taken up, is now placed as an altar-tomb in the church-yard:—*Ann le Neve, daughter of Oliver le Neve, of Witchingham, esq. and Ann, sole daughter of sir John Gaudy, of West Harling, in this county, bart. who died Nov. 29, 1689.*

Most of the Gaudys were buried in this chapel. The founder's tomb appeared on the outside of the south wall, it had an arch turned over it, and the grave-stone, or lid of the coffin, was about two feet from the ground.

In the window, over the tomb, was Gaudy, quartering Bassingbourne, impaling Wotton, Bardewell, Walcote, Pakenham, Furneaux, and Witchingham.

A black marble in the chancel, inscribed—*To Henry Cressener, once rector of this parish, and of Elizabeth, his beloved wife. Henry, and John, his father, and Nicholas, his grandfather, were successively rectors of this parish for the space of 130 years, none of them ever contending in law suits under unjust extortions of their just demands.*

demands. *Henry, as a true son of the church, was of modest demeanour, a facetious conversation, a peaceable disposition, an unlimited benevolence, a support to the needy, a healer of breaches, a comforter of the afflicted, a help to the distressed.* She died Nov. 8, 1719, aged 87. *Hc, Oct. 19, 1730, aged 79.*

The town land is about 5l. a year, which was given by Mrs. Margaret Gaudy to cloath poor widows, if there be any; if not, any poor people: it lies in Kenninghall and Banham, and the rent is received by the rector, and churchwardens, who apply it accordingly.

This rectory is valued with that of Middle Harling, which is consolidated to it, in the king's books, at 9l. 18s. 4d. it hath a rectory-house, and outhouses, and above eighty acres of glebe, together with a cullet of 100 sheep going in the lord's fold, free of all charge. The prior of Buckenham's temporals were taxed at 1s. 1d. and the prior of Thetford's at 2s. 6d.

January 19, 1457. Robert Bardewell, esq. had the rectories of West and Middle Harling consolidated; and in 1766 the Rev. Henry Pepperel was presented by the late William Croftes, esq. p.j. The Rev. Mr. John Warren is the present rector.

MIDDLE HARLING, formerly called Little Harling, lies in the midst, between West and East Harling, was held by Ulchetell, a Dane, in the Confessor's days, and by Anschitell, his descendant, (or son, as the name intimates) in the Conqueror's; it was in Kenninghall Soken, and worth at first 6l. then raised to 7l. but fell again to 5l. The part in West Harling which belonged to the Furneaux family, and after became Bardewell's manor, was valued with the rest

at

at half a fee, all which were held in capite by Alan earl of Richmond, as part of his honor, at a whole fee; this and West Harling, which was measured and taxed with it, was a league and half long, and a league broad, and paid 27d. gelt out of every 20s. raised in the hundred.

This manor was infeoffed in the Furneaux family by the earl of Richmond, along with Bergham, in Cambridgeshire, of both which sir Jeffrey de Furneaux, knt. was lord about 1180, and had his chief seat at Bergham; he had three sons, and Jeffrey, the second, held Harling, as of the manor of Bergham, it being given him by sir Jeffrey, his father, and he was the first of the family that settled here. This manor continued with them some time.

Sir John de Furneaux, who was lord in 1286, gave his manor of Bardewell, in West Harling, with Elizabeth, his daughter, to John de Bardewell. Afterwards Elizabeth Furneaux, a sole heiress of this family, married first to Robert Crabbe, whose widow she was in 1401, in which year she settled this manor and advowson, with the reversion of Kimberley manor, after the death of Margaret, late wife of sir Thomas Fastolf, knt. on sir Thomas Erpingham, knt. &c. to her use for life, and her heirs in tail; after which she married William Sandham, of Kimberley, who sold Kimberley without her consent, though she gave him Harling for life; she died in 1415. By her first husband she had two sons, John, and William, who in 1424 sued William Bardewell, esq. for the manor; but sir Thomas Erpingham proving that he and other feoffees had seisin of it, to the use of Elizabeth Crabbe, his mother, for life, and then to John Crabbe, her son, and his heirs, it was confirmed to William Bardewell, esq. and his heirs, in right

right of Eleanor Crabbe; he had the manor and advowson, all the feoffees releasing their rights in 1433; from which time it hath continued joined to West Harling, as it now remains.

The church was dedicated to St. Andrew the Apostle, being always appendant to the manor; it was a rectory valued at five marks at the Norwich taxation, and is now valued with West Harling to the land tax, there being four houses, and about thirty inhabitants. The church-yard is now glebe, the church remained in use till 1543, and then it was entirely taken down, so that the foundations only are now visible; it stood by the lane's side, in the close going to West Harling church.

John Michell, priest, was the last rector, Jan. 29, 1457, it being consolidated at that time to West Harling.

In 1321 sir John de Furneaux, knt. in open court enjoined all the tenants of the manor, under the penalty of 12d. for every default, to dig a St. Andrew's cross on each piece of their land, when they sowed it, to avoid all disputes between the rectors of West and Middle Harling.

In 1344 the lord held a tenement, and nine acres, freehold, of the prior of the canons of the Holy Sepulchre, at Thetford, by the rent of 12d. a year, all which Amy Waterhenne held of the lord, by paying the prior his rent, and 1d. a year to the lord.

Robert Gildensleve died in 1444, and gave a mesnage, called Purdy's, at Middle Harling-green, and nine acres of land, four acres and an half lying at Dedmore, and four acres and an half at Blowlond,

to the inhabitants of Middle-Harling *for ever*, who in 1556 brought their deeds into court, and proved that on April the 13th, 1547. Henry Cooper, then scoffee, made a new feoffment of Gildensleve's to the use of the inhabitants, it being freehold, held of Bardewell's manor in West Harling, by suit of court, and the rent of 6d. a year and one capon.

KENNINGHALL, or, as it is wrote in Doomsday book, CHENINKEHALA, is a town of large extent, and great antiquity, so called from *Gyning*, which in Saxon signifies a king, so that *Cyning*, or Kinninghall, signifies the king's house, and according to the etymology, it hath been a seat of the East Anglian kings, who are said to have had a castle here, which indeed seems true: the scite of it is now called the Candle-yards\*; because the offices for that purpose were built in it when Thomas, the great duke of Norfolk, built the palace, this place being distant enough to hinder the smell reaching it. It is south-west of the palace about a furlong, being a square of four acres, encompassed with a spacious trench; at each corner is a mount, but that to the south-east is much the largest; the manor-house continued through all its changes in this place, until the duke pulled it down, and built that stately house at the distance before mentioned, which was after called Kenninghall palace, or place: it fronted east and west, and was built in the form of an H. having a porter's lodge, and all things else in the grandest manner: It was situated in the midst of a large park, which contained 700 acres, well stocked with deer, the north side guarded with woods and groves, being distant at least a mile from the town, which lies westward;

at

\* Many urns have been found in this town, near the Candle-yards, which shew as if the Romans had been here.

at the duke's attainder it was seized by the king, and settled on the then lady Mary, who kept her court here. To this castle (as Stowe calls it) she removed from Hunsdon in Hertfordshire, and hither resorted to her several lords and knights of this county, as sir John Shelton, sir Henry Bedingfield, sir Henry Jerningham, and others, at the death of Edward VI. from whence they went to Framlingham castle: afterwards it was in Queen Elizabeth's hands, who was often here; she it was that ordered her tenant, Chapman, who then lived in Fersfield Lodge, to lay out the way now called Chapman's entry, out of her own ground, the old way being so narrow, that the queen could not conveniently pass through it; it is now disused, and is called queen Bess's-lane, from her being scratched with the brambles in riding through it, as tradition tells us. It continued in the Norfolk family, as their capital seat in this county, till about 1650, when it was pulled down, and the materials sold for a trifle, with which great numbers of chimneys and walls in the neighbourhood were built, as is evident from the Mowbray's, and Arundel's arms, which are upon the bricks. Spelman, in his *Icenia*, hath nothing more of this town, than that it was the seat of some of the chiefeſt barons. That it belonged to the crown in the most early times is plain, for the Confessor had it in his own hands, it being then worth 10l. a year, and five sextaries of honey, but it was risen in the Conqueror's time to 24l. of uncoined money, to be paid by weight, and 6l. of coined money, which was paid by tale, and a fine at each king's accession; (for so we take *Gersuma* in the Saxon to signify). It had a freeman and thirty acres belonging to it in Knattishall, in Suffolk; and West Harling also was a berewick to it: It was then three miles long, and one mile broad, and

paid 25d. Dane-geld. It always was, and is now privileged as antient demesne, the inhabitants being excused from toll, passage, and stallage, and from serving on any juries out of the Lordship, and paying towards the charges of the knights of the shire, upon renewing their writ of exemption on the death of every king, and having it annually allowed by the sheriff of the county.

It remained but a little while in the crown, being given by the Conqueror to William de Albini, Albiniaco, or Albany, and his heirs, together with the Lordship of Buckenham, &c. to be held by the service of being chief butler to the kings of England, on the day of their coronation, upon which account he was after called *Pincerna Regis*. It always went with Buckenham, till the division of the Albany estate, between the four sisters and co-heiresses of Hugh de Albini, who died without issue, leaving this manor in dower to Isabel his wife, daughter of William earl Warren and Surrey, who in 1243 had it among others assigned to her by the king's licence; at her death it went to Roger de Montealt, or de-Montealto, who had married Cecily, one of the sisters and co-heiresses of Hugh de Albany; this Robert died seised in 1274, leaving it to Robert de Montealt. In 1276 it was held in chief of the king, by the service of butler, as aforesaid, and had a certain capital messuage, called Easthall\*, and another called a grange, with a ruinous dove-house, and 400 acres of land, 100 of which are arable, and yearly worth 10l. besides eighteen acres of meadow, worth 18d. each acre, a wind-mill lett

for

\* This was the name of the old house, before the duke of Norfolk built the palace, and was so called because it stood east of the town.

for 13*s.* 4*d.* a large park, the herbage of which is yearly worth 5*l.* and the underwood 4*os.* a year. There was a market kept every Monday, lett at 2*os.* a year, and also a fair, lett at 2*s.* a year; the yearly quit-rents were 8*l.* payable by equal portions, at St. Martin, Christmas, Easter, and Midsummer; also 1200 days work in autumn, worth 1*d.* each day, also the fishery, called the Sewer, worth 2*s.* a year; the pleas, perquisites of courts, and views of frankpledge, and leets belonging thereto, are yearly worth 8*l.* To this manor also belonged Guiltcros hundred; the pleas and perquisites of the hundred court, with all the views of frankpledge and leets belonging thereto, were worth 5*l.* a year, the whole of the value being 4*4l.* 15*s.* and the said Robert had the manors of Rising and Snettisham, and the hundred of Smithdon, and the fourth part of Lynn Tolbooth unsettled, all which were valued at 8*l.* per ann. From this Robert it came to Roger de Montealt, who in 1286 had the following privileges allowed to this manor, viz. free-warren, view of frankpledge, assize of bread and ale, a pillory, ducking-stool, gallows, and waif, with a yearly fair, on the day of the translation of St. Thomas Becket, and a weekly-market on Monday\*. In the first year of Edward III. this Robert petitioned the barons of the Exchequer to be admitted chief butler on the coronation-day, by reason of his manor of Kenninghall, which office he recovered against the Earl of Arundel, who claimed it as belonging to his earldom; and he performed the office accordingly, and obtained a decree that that office henceforward should be performed by the several lords of the manors of Kenninghall, Buckenham, and

\* The fair is still kept on that day, viz. July the 7th. The market hath been disused many years.

Wymondham, or their deputies, by turns, upon proving that Hugh de Aubany, late earl of Arundel, held these, and Snettisham manors of Henry III. by the said office, which he performed at that king's coronation, and died so seised, upon which Buckenham, and Wymondham, descended to sir Robert de Tatehale, whose heir held them; and Kenninghall and Snettisham came to the said Robert de Montealt, or Mohaut, who held them; and at the coronation of Edward II. he claimed and offered to perform his part of the said service, in right of his said manors; but Edmund Earl of Arundel by his great power (though he never had any of the said manors) performed the said service, to the disherison of him, and his parcener, for which reason, at the coronation of Edward III. the said Robert claimed and performed the whole service, Tatehale's heirs being under age. The return upon search of the records says, that as to Snettisham having a turn in the office, they at present could find nothing of it, but that at the coronation of Eleanor, daughter of Hugh earl of Provence, grandmother to the present king, Hugh de Albani, then earl of Arundel, in right of these manors, and not of his earldom, served the said office by his deputy, the earl Warren, because he was then excommunicated by the archbishop of Canterbury, for taking away the Archbishop's dogs from him, as he hunted in the said earl's forest in Sussex, the archbishop alledging, that he had a right to hunt in any forest in England, whenever he would. This office still continues by turns to these manors, though in a petition directed to the lords commissioned to receive all claims of services, to be performed at the coronation of queen Anne, by reason of their tenures, we find " that Charles earl of Carlisle, earl-marshall of England, during the minority of Thomas duke of Norfolk, and earl

earl of Arundel, who was then out of the realm, claimed to perform this service in a double capacity, viz. in right of this manor, and of his earldom, setting forth, that he held the manor by this grand-jeantry, which was performed in right of it, at the coronation of Eleanor aforesaid, and at the coronation of Richard II. by the earl of Arundel and Surrey and of Henry IV. by Thomas then earl of Arundel and Surrey, and by Henry earl of Arundel at the coronation of Edward VI. in right (as was said) of the earldom of Arundel, and by Henry duke of Norfolk, and earl of Arundel, by his deputy, at the coronation of king William and queen Mary, who then received all the fees and profits belonging to the office, viz. the best gold cup that the king drank out of on the coronation-day, with the cloths, napkins, and linen then used, the cups both of gold and of silver, used that day in the king's wine-cellar, with all wine vessels, pots, cups, glasses, &c." In 1327, a fine was levied between this Robert de Montealt, who was then steward of Chester, and Emma his wife, by which this manor was settled on themselves, and their heirs male, remainder to Isabel queen of England for life, and then to John of Eltham, the king's brother, in tail, remainder to Edward king of England, and his heirs: Robert and Emma had no male heirs, and so it came to queen Isabel, and John of Eltham dying without heirs, the reversion after the queen's death was in the king, who in 1336 gave it to sir William de Montacute, or Montague, who upon paying the queen 600 marks had a release from her, and immediate possession of it; he died seised in 1343, leaving the manor to William de Montague, his son and heir, in whom it continued till 1377, and then he settled it upon sir William Montague, knt. his son, upon his marriage with Elizabeth, daughter to Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arun-

del, and the issue of their bodies; but he being unhappily slain in a tilting at Windsor, by his own father, in 1382, he left no issue; upon his death Richard II. kept court here, but soon after delivered it up to Elizabeth, widow of the said William, who, according to the settlement, enjoyed it for life, and at her death it was to revert to her father-in-law, William earl of Salisbury, and lord of Man; it was this earl who, in 1345, (before he had settled it on his son) granted to Albred de Pakenham, of Garboldisham, a fold-course for 300 sheep, and 30 muttons, with common of pasture for his cattle, through the whole year, from a place called Howardsty, northward, partly to Kenninghall-gap, and from thence westward to Ringmere, and thence by the way leading from Kenninghall to Bury, as the way leads to Garboldisham field, paying him a yearly rent for it, which right is now enjoyed as belonging to Garboldisham, Uphall, or Pakenham's. This lady held the manor in 1388, at which time she was married to Thomas Lord Mowbray, earl marshal of England, who was to hold it for her life in her right, and this year Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel and Surrey, her father, purchased the perpetual inheritance of it of William Earl of Salisbury aforesaid, and had a fine levied to settle it on him and his heirs, but upon his attainder, in 1397, the king granted the reversion of the manor, and hundred, they being forfeited to the crown, to Thomas de Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, and he being banished the year following, the king granted it by letters patent, dated at Leicester, to John de Montague, earl of Salisbury, his great favorite, to be held by him of the crown, in as free manner as William de Montague, his uncle, Richard earl of Arundel, or Thomas duke of Norfolk, ever held it; but he dying

dying in 1399, never enjoyed it, it being then held by Elizabeth duchess of Norfolk, who was then married to sir Gerard Usflet, her third husband. In 1411 Edmund Blankpaine is said to hold the manor and hundred, as trustee; and in 1422 it was settled by Elizabeth duchess of Norfolk, late wife of Gerard Usflet, on divers trustees, to several uses; this was upon her fourth marriage with sir Robert Gowthall, knt. who in 1426 held the manor and hundred in her right: she died soon after; for in 1428 Thomas de Montague, earl of Salisbury, died seised\*, leaving them to Alice, his daughter by his first wife, then married to Richard Neville, eldest son to Ralph Neville, earl of Westmoreland, which Richard, on her account, was made earl of Salisbury, and had livery of her lands this very year, but soon after he gave this manor, and hundred, in marriage with Joan, his daughter, to William Fitz-Alan, Earl of Arundel, who in the Feudary is said then to hold it; he in all likelihood, sold it to John Duke of Bedford, who about 1435 sold it again to the prior of Thetford, in trust for John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, who settled it on Elizabeth, his wife, for life, and their heirs; he died in 1475, and she enjoyed it to her death, when it descended to sir John Howard, knt. son of sir Robert Howard, knt. by Margaret, his wife, who was one of the co-heiresses of Thomas Mowbray, first duke of Norfolk, it being assigned to him as part of the half of the Mowbray's inheritance. This John was created Duke of Norfolk in 1483, by Richard III. and was slain with him in Bosworth-field, in 1485, at whose death it went to

his

\* Dug. Bar. vol. 1. p. 130. This is a mistake of Mr. Dugdale, for it appears she was after married to Robert Gowthall, and did not die in 1424.

his eldest son, Thomas then earl of Surrey, and afterwards duke of Norfolk, he being restored in 1488 to that earldom and estate; in 1506 he had special livery of all the lands his father died seised of, was made earl-marshal of England by Henry VIII. in the second year of his reign, and afterwards duke of Norfolk; he died in 1524, leaving Thomas, his son, heir to his estate and honor: In 1537 the quit-rents were 33l. 3s. 11d. a year; the farm of the hundred 6l. 13s. 4d. the agistments of the park, and perquisites of the fair, 5l. besides the warren, wind-mill, and fishery. This Thomas being attainted, his estate was seized, and settled on the lady Mary, who resided here, but it was restored to him again, upon her coming to the crown, and he came and died here in 1547, leaving Thomas, his grandchild, his heir, who resided here with Margaret, daughter of Thomas Audeley, baron Audeley, his second wife, in 1560. He was beheaded in 1572†, from which time it passed with Fersfield manor, Charles Howard, duke of Norfolk, being now Lord.

In 1610 the quit-rents were 47l. 7s. 6d. the farm of the hundred 6l. 13s. 4d. the profits of the fair 5l. the keeper of the palace's wages per ann. 3l. 10d. the park-keeper's wages 3l. 10d. the gardener 4l. per ann. the whole park within the pale contained 700 acres. There was a rent paid out of the New Park, which was due to the late priory of Thetford, with which it came to the duke, and then ceased. In this year the townsmen purchased the sheep-walk of the lord

† At his trial (the heads of which may be seen in Baker's Chron. fol. 499:) he was proceeded against by the name of "Thomas Duke of Norfolk, late of Keningale, in the county of Norfolk."

lord, and so made their lands whole-year lands: at this time also the inhabitants paid a small sum to the lord, as an acknowledgment, or free-rent, for their new entrenched grounds, they having by consent inclosed their common, called the Park Common, and appropriated the several parts to divers uses; but this remained but a small time, for the commoners disagreeing among themselves, they were all laid common as at first, though the banks and trenches are still visible.—*Blomefield.*

KENNINGHALL PLACE, or PALACE. The scite of the superb palace of the dukes of Norfolk, and their ancient capital mansion, is the property of William Pawlett, esq. who served in the last war with great reputation, and being called out again into service on the breaking out of the American war, after behaving often with great gallantry, lost his leg by a cannon shot in the trenches at Boston, in New England: on his return to England he was shipwrecked on the Isle of Scilly, and preserved with great difficulty; being introduced to the king on his arrival at London, he was graciously received by his Majesty, and presented to the command of a company of invalids in the Isle of Jersey, which command he at present enjoys (1780). He married the daughter of —— Howes, esq. of Attleburgh, by whom he has two sons, the eldest of whom, William, is a lieutenant in the western regiment of Norfolk militia, under the command of the earl of Orford, lord lieutenant in the county of Norfolk, and colonel in the army.

The customs of this manor and the rectory manor are the same, viz. the copyhold descends to the youngest son, the fine is certain, at 6d. an acre, they give dower, and the tenants can waste their copyhold houses

houses, sell timber, plant, and cut down wood and timber on the waste against their own lands, without licence.

The RECTORY MANOR went with the rectory till its appropriation, and then became part of the possessions of Buckenham priory till its dissolution, and was then granted with the impropriation to the Norfolk family, forfeited at the duke's attainder in the time of queen Elizabeth to the crown, and by her, with the impropriation, given to the bishopric of Ely, from which it was seized in the rebellion, and the manor only, in 1554, sold by sir John Wollafton, and others, trustees for sale of bishops lands, according to an ordnance of parliament, to Robert Benson, and his heirs, it extending then into Quidenham, and Harling, the church and church-yard being excepted out of the conveyance, as also all lands and tithes, except a messuage, or tenement, with the curtilages thereto belonging, called the Granary\*, which belonged to the said rectory. In 1657 it was again sold by Robert Benson, gent. for 149l. to Thomas Kendall, of Thetford, and Thomas West, from whom it was seized by the bishop of Ely at the restoration, and by him leased out, (the advowson of the vicarage being excepted) and having passed through many hands, is at this time in Mr. Philips Gretton, clerk, who is now (Blomefield) by virtue of the bishop's lease both lord and impropriator. This manor when the rectory was appropriated had a leet, and the amerciaments of all its own tenants, with the assize of bread and ale, and corrections of weights and measures, and also common of pasture, on a common called Suchach, or Southaugh, now Southwell, in the said town, this common being appropriated to it.

\* This was the old Guildhall that belonged to the parish before.

it. It was taxed in 1428, with the other spirituals of that priory in this town, at sixteen marks.

This vicarage is valued at 5l. 7s. 1d. and being sworn of the clear yearly value of 40l. is discharged from first fruits and tenths, though it still answers 2s. for synodals, and 7s. 7d. ob. for procurations, there being a mean vicarage-house joining to the east end of the church-yard, and five acres and a half of glebe. It was originally a rectory, in the gift of the lord of the manor, to which belonged a manor, and a good quantity of demesne lands, and such it continued till William de Albany, the second earl of Arundel of that name, gave it to the priory of St. James, at Old Buckenham, which his father had founded: this William died the 4th of October, 1176, from which time the prior presented to this rectory, till about 1223, and then, at the petition of Walter the then prior, and the convent there, Pandulf, bishop of Norwich, appropriated it to that convent, reserving power to ordain a vicarage worth eight marks a year, to be settled upon the vicar, which was accordingly done, and was to consist, according to the endowment, (the original of which Mr. le Neve says is in the hands of the dean of Norwich) in all the altarage, and all other small tithes whatsoever, together with the small tithes of the earl's house, and all the hay, and great and small tithes of 140 acres of free land, which belonged to the rectory before the appropriation, and in other things particularly mentioned in the endowment; by this means the convent got into their hands all the tithe corn, and the rectory-manor, with all its rents and profits, and most of the glebe. The rents of assize were 3l. 7s. a year, (as we learn from the accompt-book of that priory, fol. 2.) but for this they were obliged to give the nomination of the vicars for ever to the see of Norwich,

wich, the bishops of which ever after nominated to the prior such persons as they pleased, and if they did not immediately present the person nominated, the bishop collated him according to the agreement; and least there should be any future claim from the lords of the manor of Kenninghall, to which the advowson formerly belonged, the prior and convent got Roger de Montealt, then lord, to confirm to them the advowson, manor, and appropriation. The presentation was afterwards in the dukes of Norfolk till 1634, when the bishop of Ely became patron; and it has continued in that see ever since.

The church is situate on a hill, having a large square tower at its west end, which was designed to be carried to a greater height, but was never finished, its head being shortened by the misfortunes of its founder, Thomas duke of Norfolk, whose crest remains on the buttresses at this time. Here are five very large tunable bells. The nave is forty yards long, and seven broad, having a porch joined to its south side, and an aisle to its north, all which are covered with lead, and seem to be much older than the tower; the chancel is also leaded, and was built by John Milgate, the last prior of Buckenham, whose monument remains in the south wall, though it is robbed of its arms and inscription, which remained in Mr. Weaver's time; for he tells us, fol. 859, that it appeared by his tomb that he built the chancel, though there are two grand mistakes in his relation of it, for he is called there Shildgate, instead of Milgate, and said to be prior of Wymondham, instead of Buckenham; his arms are to be seen on a brick in the chancel wall, as also upon the wall of a house at Thompson, in which Roger Colman, clerk, dwelt, with the following under them:

*Perpetuis*

*Perpetuis annis, Milgate memento Johannis.*

And this motto: — *Help Handis.*

By which it should seem as if this house also was built by him; whether these were his paternal arms, or not, we cannot say, but rather think they were not.

In digging a grave for one Mr. Watts, near this tomb, they happened on a vault close to the wall, in which this prior's bones till that time lay undisturbed.

To the north side of the chancel joins a chapel, or chantry, now converted into a school-house, and vestry; it hath W. B. cut in stone over the north door; and in a window is a broken effigy, kneeling, and this:

*Dominus michi gracia. in Domino confido.*

A stone before the altar is robbed of a large brass effigy and four shields, by which we learn, that it was the grave-stone of George Haffet, (or Bleverhasset) esq. who first married the daughter of Jarnegan, and after the daughter of L'Estrange; for we find in a manuscript of Mr. Anstis's, marked E. 26, fol. 29. that he is here buried under a fair grave-stone, with his arms quartered, and there is no stone here that ever had any arms, but this only, and the W. B. cut in stone over the door of this chantry might signify William Bleverhasset, by whom it is very likely it might be founded.

In the nave are several stones pillaged of their brasses, but on a very large one before the desk, the portraiture of a woman, and five boys, and five girls, are still left, the inscription and man's effigy being lost; under this stone it is probable Roger Dennis

Dennis is interred, for whom, in Mr. Weaver's time, this was remaining:

*Orate pro anima Rogery Dennys, Seneschalli Caſſal : : :*

In the chancel is a small altar-tomb against the north wall, having had an effigy, inscription, circumscription, and four shields, which are all gone: Weaver says it was erected for George lord Audley, and his wife, the daughter of the earl of Bath, and indeed the arms on the south side of it, which are painted, and now whitened over, did intimate, that it was erected for some of that family, the first being Audeley.

Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, and Margaret Audeley, his second wife, resided here in 1560, about which time he adorned the windows of the church with the following arms, some of which are now lost:—Audeley quartering Touchet, in a garter; Audeley impaling Bourchier; Lovaine quartered with Audeley, and Fitz-Warren; Audeley impales Badelesmere, duke of Buckingham, and Mowbray's arms; Howard, &c. In a garter, with a ducal coronet, four coats quartered, 1st. 2d. Howard, with the augmentation. 3d. earl Warren. 4th. Mowbray. And an inscription, now defaced.

This duke's effigy in his coat armor, having his hatchment in the garter, was three times in one window, but all now gone.

In the east chancel window is a large white rose, the badge of the house of York; and England with a label of three points, arg. impaling lord Talbot, quartering ar. two lions passant gul. Mowbray single, and Brotherton and Mowbray.

An

An altar-tomb at the west end of the aisle—*To John Kett, late of Diss, gentleman, who died October the 1st, 1728, aged 76 years; also Mary, his wife, who died August the 21st, 1729.*

There are four old stones in the nave in shape of coffins, but no inscriptions: and on a stone in the wall of the porch is a horse carved.

Though there are no memorials of any kind remaining over the places of their sepulture, yet we find from the parish register, that on the 30th day of June, anno 1593, here was buried Jane countess of Westmoreland, wife to Charles lord Neville, of Westmoreland, lord of Raby, Standop, Branstead, Warkworth, Sherybton, and Middleham, daughter of Henry Howard, earl of Surrey, and sister of Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk.

Here lieth also Elizabeth duchess of Norfolk, who was buried the 18th of September, 1567; she was third wife to Thomas Howard, fourth duke of Norfolk, daughter of sir Francis Leibourne, knt. and widow of Thomas lord D'Acre, of Gillesland, and Greystock, in Cumberland.

Thomas duke of Norfolk, who died at his palace here in 1554, the 2d of queen Mary, is not buried here, (as by some asserted) but at Framlingham, in Suffolk.

On a coffin stone against the chancel, though at some distance,—*Here lieth the body of Robart Button, who died June the 29th, betwixt six and seven o'clock at night, aged 74 years.*—Though they were so punctual for the hour, they forgot to insert the year of his death, which was in 1714.

This church is dedicated to St. Mary. The most eminent person that this town has produced, among our authors, was Brother John, of Kenninghall, who became a carmelite, or white friar, in the convent at Norwich, and afterwards was provincial friar of the whole order throughout all England; he died April 28, 1451, and was buried in that monastery. He wrote divers treatises on several pieces of Aristotle, and twelve sermons upon Christ's death and resurrection, with other works that are now lost.

Bale, from Leland, gives us an account of another, who from his name seems to have belonged to this town, and that was Peter Keningall, a carmelite friar, and noted preacher, of a good family, born indeed in France, but of English parents; he studied at Oxford for several years, died there, *anno 1494*, and was buried in his convent. He wrote certain sermons, or discourses to the people, and some disputationes.

The commons belonging to this town are very large, containing more than all the enclosed lands, and are thus called the Park Common, because it joined to the park, Southache, or Southaugh, now Southwell common, the heath of which is appropriated for sheep, (as the others are for great beasts) besides other small greens, which are common, though of no great extent.

The town lands are, three pieces in Quidenham-fields, lett to a farmer at Quidenham for 10s. per ann. One acre in Gobbet's-close, lett to the vicar (the rest of that close being glebe) for 6s. per ann. Barly-clove's hempland, lying against the park common, lett at 7s. 6d. per ann. One acre in Mill-close, lett at 6s. per ann. One acre in Camping-close, lett

at

at 6s. per ann. Five roods in Upper Furlong, and one acre in Pollswill Furlong, lett at 10s. per ann. Hilbridge-close about two acres, lying by Harlingfield, lett at 10s. per ann.

Mrs. Dorothy Gaudy gave 20s. a year, to be paid out of lands in Garboldisham, to the poor of Kenninghall.

In 1603 there were 370 communicants, and now (Blomefield) there are about 114 houses, 132 families, and 700 inhabitants. It paid to the tenths 3l. 10s. and is now valued to the king's tax at 1059l. 15s. It is a neat compact village, standing round the market-place, which must have been a very convenient one when the market was kept there.

Mr. Blomefield says, he was lately informed that there is exactly 11 acres and one rood of glebe; that there is a cup which weighs six ounces, and a cover of the same weight; that the first bell weighs 700lb. the second 1000, the third 1200, the fourth 1400, and the fifth 2500.

In 1770 the Rev. Lewis Jones was presented to this vicarage by the lord bishop of Ely.

LOPHAM joins to the south part of Kenninghall: what this town's name signifies we know not, and what is remarkable, it never altered its spelling from the Conqueror's time to this day, for in Doomsday-book we find it the same. In the Confessor's time Lopham was two distinct towns, and different manors; Lopham *Magna*, now North Lopham, belonged to Ofl, a free-man, his manor having three carucates of land in demesne; and the other Lopham, called afterwards Lopham *Parva*, and now South

Lopham, belonged to Alsius, a free-man, whose manor then contained two carucates in demesne. This Alsius had a manor in Blo-Norton, which in the Conqueror's days he joined to this, making it a berewick to it, after which they came into the Conqueror's hands, who gave them to Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, who joined the two Lopham's, and granted off the Norton part to Alured, an Englishman; from this time Lopham hath continued as one manor to this day, though they are two distinct parishes, St. Nicholas, and St. Andrew, each having their separate bounds and officers.

Roger Bigot, who was possessed of this manor at the survey, died in 1107, and was buried in the abbey of Thetford, which he had built, leaving William his son and heir, who gave the church of Lopham to the monks of Thetford, in the time of Henry I. which was appropriated, and then confirmed to that house, with all it's appurtenances, by Henry II. This was South Lopham church, which by its conventional form, and Gothic tower, was in all likelihood built at this time, and 'tis probable some of those monks had a cell here, and served it for some time, and this is the reason that this church never had any institution, though the monks quitted all their right in it to the lord, who had a release of it from the abbey, and added it with the appurtenances to the rector of the other church, who took the cure upon him from that time; this must be very early, for before 1340 it was taxed at twenty-six marks, a value that must include the whole. This William being steward of the household to Henry I. perished with that king's children, and divers other of the nobility, by shipwreck, as they came from Normandy into England, in the year 1119, leaving Hugh Bigot, his brother,

his heir, who by king Stephen was made earl of the East Angles, or Norfolk, which was again confirmed to him by Henry II. together with the stewardship of that king's household; yet, notwithstanding all these favors, he took part with the earl of Leicester, in the rebellion began by him, adhering to young Henry (whom king Henry his father had crowned) in his rebellious practices, but meeting with no success, he was forced to make his peace with the king, for a fine of 1000 marks, and not long after he went into the Holy-Land with the earl of Flanders, and there died in 1177, upon which the king seized all his treasure, and retained it in his hands.

Roger Bigot, his son, inherited, who in 1189 was restored by Richard I. to his earldom, stewardship, and estate, upon paying a fine of 1000 marks for these favors: he died about 1218.

It continued in this family till 1269, when Roger Bigot had livery of that great inheritance, but he having no issue, in 1301 settled all his estate (except the manors of Acle and Castor, and the advowson of Geldestone church, in Clavering, and others in Yorkshire) upon Edward I. (after his and his wife Alice's death) together with the marshal's rod, upon condition to be rendered back in case he should have any children; though at the same time John Bigot, his own brother, and heir apparent, was living, who by this means was cut off from all, but the manors that were excepted. This Roger, jointly with Alice his wife, held this manor of the king's grant upon the settlement, at which time the manor-house had a demesne of 335 acres of land, 15 of meadow, and 20 acres of pasture, with a park, two wind-mills, and the fourth part of Harling-mill: he

died about 1305, seised of this and many other manors, leaving John, his brother, his next heir, who inherited nothing but the part excepted, the estate going to Edward I. from which time it remained in the crown till Edward II. in the ninth year of his reign, gave it with the rest of the Bigot estate to Thomas de Brotherton, his brother, whom he this year created earl of Norfolk, and marshal of England; he died in 1338, leaving his two daughters his heiresses, Alice, married to Edward de Monteacute, and Margaret, first married to John lord Segrave, and after to sir Walter Manny, kn. of the garter, to whose share this, among other manors, was allotted: In her right John de Segrave became lord and patron upon Thomas de Brotherton's death, and held it till he died in 1351, leaving Elizabeth his daughter and heiress, then married to John, son of John lord Mowbray, though this manor remained in the aforesaid Margaret's hands, and came to her second husband, sir Walter de Manny, kn. who had it till he died in 1371, from which time it continued in the said Margaret till the 24th of March, 1399, when she died. She was created duchess of Norfolk for the term of her life, by Richard II. in 1397.

It appears that there were great uneasinesses between her and the lord Segrave, her first husband, for she went in person to Rome, in order to obtain a sentence of divorce from him, of the Pope, having obtained letters of safe conduct for her and her retinue of the French king, notwithstanding which she and her servants were all arrested, and taken in their journey, at the instigation as was thought of her husband, who was then under excommunication for not going to Rome, according to the Pope's citation, though he had pleaded that, being a baron of

of England, he was not *compellable* to appear at that court; by this means he stopped her appearing against him at Rome at the day assigned, and the matter afterwards was made up between them; at her death it descended to Thomas lord Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, her grandson, who in 1401 had this manor, though the advowson and part of the demesnes belonged to Elizabeth, his mother, in right of her dower; he never was duke, being beheaded at York, with Richard Scroope, Archb. of Canterbury, in 1405.

John, his brother, being his heir, was restored to the title of duke of Norfolk in 1424, and dying in 1432, John, his son, succeeded him; but this manor was assigned in dower to Catherine, his mother, daughter to Ralph Neville, earl of Westmoreland, who was afterwards married to Thomas Strange-wayes, esq. after that to John viscount Beaumont, and lastly to John Widvile, brother to Anthony earl Rivers, all whom were lords here in her right; at her death John duke of Norfolk, her son, enjoyed it, and died seised in 1461, and John, his son, inherited: he died in 1474, leaving Anne his sole daughter, then two years old, afterwards married to Richard duke of York, second son to Edward IV. who was murdered in the Tower in 1483, and dying issueless, it fell to the share of sir John Howard, knt. son of sir Robert Howard, knt. and Margaret his wife, who was one of the two daughters and co-heiresses of Thomas Mowbray, first duke of Norfolk, from which time it hath always attended the fate of that family, and is now the estate of Charles Howard, the present duke of Norfolk.

This manor was held as parcel of Earl Roger's barony, and in 1285 had view of frank-pledge, assize of bread and ale, and free-warren belonging

to it. In 1609, the quit-rents were above 21l. per ann. in 1641 the park was farmed at 390l. per ann.

The leet belongs to the manor, the customs of which are, that the fines are at the lord's will, the copyhold descends to the eldest son, the tenants can build, and pull down, fell timber, and plant on the waste against their own lands without licence.

**GODSON'S MANOR, OR FREE- TENEMENT,** in North Lopham, was held of the hundred by the service of 1s. a year, to which belonged many copy and free-holders, the whole at first contained a carucate of land, which was granted by earl Roger to Richard of Lopham, who died in 1194, in which year Ivo of Lopham, his son, gave 20s. to have a recognition of the death of his ancestor for a carucate of land in Lopham, against Gundred the countess, and in 1198 the said Ivo granted half of the said carucate, with Ivo the steward of Lopham, his family, and posterity, to earl Roger, and Gundred his countess, and agreed to hold the other half of them by the rent of 5s. a year, and 20s. 6d. scutage, so that now this free-tenement, as it was then called, contained half a carucate; the 5s. rent was afterwards released, and it came to be held of the hundred, and not of the capital manor, at 1s. a year rent. In 1248 Henry of Lopham, the chirurgeon, had it, and in 1335, Henry, the son of Robert de Lopham\*; afterwards it was owned by John Goodson, vicar of Pakenham, whose name it still retains: From this family it went to John Hawes, and from him to Robert Leader, then to John Leader,

\* Of this family was Symon de Lopham, clerk in 1334, and Dionise de Lopham, his son, who was a famous notary public.

Leader, and from him to Robert Warnes the elder, and then to Robert Warnes the younger, who had it in 1635, by which time the copyhold was all manumiséd, and the free rents sold off, all but 16s. 1od. 3q. a year. In 1634 Robert Warnes, son of the last Robert, held it, by the rent of 12d. a year, in lieu of all suit of court to the hundred. It afterwards belonged to Francis Bogas, gent. who died in 1692, leaving it to his widow, who afterwards married Mr. Samuel Browning, of Thetford, and at her death it went to Mr. Samuel Browning, his son, who sold it to Mr. Thomas Saunders, of Thetford, but there are no rents now remaining.

The RECTORY MANOR always belonged to the rector, as it now doth, its customs being the same as the great manor; there is a rectory house, and forty-six acres and one rood of glebe, in South Lopham, and nine acres two roods and an half in North Lopham.

This rectory is valued at 17l. 5d. and is still charged with first fruits, and 1l. 14s. ob. yearly tenths.

South Lopham church is dedicated to St. Nicholas, being built in the conventional form, the tower is square, being a very large Gothic building<sup>f</sup>; in it are six good bells, the chancel is leaded, as is the nave, south aisle, and porch; there are no arms, nor inscriptions, any where in it, except this

<sup>f</sup> The tower, as before observed, in all likelihood was built by William Bigot about the time he gave it to Thetford monks, but the present church was rebuilt long since, most likely by the parish, when Nicholas de Horton, rector here, rebuilt the chancel, between the years 1361 and 1380.

this on a stone in the chancel, very obsolete,—*Hic jacet dominus Willus Lirling.*

In Mr. Anstis's book it appears the following arms were formerly here, viz. Segrave, Brotherton, Mowbray, Walter de Maney, Vere, Ufford, and arm. a bend gul. couized or. Coote, impaling Harvey.

Christopher Coote had a lease of this manor. Francis Coote, gentleman-usher to queen Elizabeth, was buried in this chancel.

In the chancel the following inscriptions were formerly on brass plates:—*Orate pro animabus Rolandi Arfick, armigeri, secundi filij Eudonis Arfick, militis, qui Rolandus obiit 17°. die Febr. 1497. et Margaretæ uxoris ejus, filia Thoma Huntingfield, de hac villa, que quidem Margareta obiit 25°. die Octobris, 1486, quorum animabus propicietur Deus, Amen.*

*Orate pro animabus Willi Hovell de Ashfield, armigeri, et Elizabethe uxoris ejus, qui quidem Willus ob. 7°. die Julij, 1534, duor: aiab; propicietur Deus, Amen.*

In 1526 Robert Saunder was buried in this church, who gave 20s. towards the repairs of the steeple.

North Lopham church is dedicated to St. Andrew the Apostle, the tower is square, having five bells in it; it was begun to be rebuilt about 1479, but was not finished till about 1526, for till that time most that died here left something towards it; there were certainly a great number of benefactors, the initial letters of the names of the principal ones being carved in the stone-work on the south-side, John Kailli, the principal undertaker's name, being at length. The

The nave and chancel are thatched, the south aisle leaded, and the south porch tiled.

In the south window of the chancel a bishop in his pontificalibus is represented as dead, lying along.

In the church is a black marble—*For Francis Bogaes, gent. who died the 6th Day of July, anno Dom. 1692;*—with his arms.

Here were two guilds, one dedicated to St. John, the other to St. Peter, which were endowed with lands seized upon by the crown, in the 1st of Edward VI. and so continued till king Philip and queen Mary, in the 3d and 4th year of their reign, gave them to Thomas Reeve, and George Calton, who sold them the same year to Thomas Brooke, and William Woodferme, who sold them again immediately to the inhabitants, who now enjoy them, viz. a tenement and half an acre at the west end of the church-yard; three acres of land in North Lopham; the first is called St. John's Acre; because it belonged to that guild, and lies in Well, or Wilbush-furlong. The second is St. Peter's Acre, so called for the same reason; this abuts upon the common towards the west. The third is called Lamp Acre, and abuts on the glebe, and was given to maintain a lamp burning in the church, all which are now held of the manor of East Greenwich, by fealty only, without any payment, and were settled to the use of the poor.

In 1412 sir Edmund Noon, knt. lord of Shelfhanger, granted a tenement, called Elwine's, and thirteen acres of land, part of his demesnes, to Richard Bosse, to be held free by him and his heirs for ever, by the payment of a red rose every Midsummer-day, at Shelfhanger manor; all which lands, with

with others joined to them, he gave to this town to repair the church for ever; from which time it hath been held by feoffees, as it now is, and the profits applied to that use, it being now lett at 8l. per ann. Besides these, here are other lands, &c. belonging to the inhabitants.

The other town lands are lett at 12l. per annum, whereof 1l. 10s. a year lies in Garboldisham, and 1l. a year in South Lopham. Here is a town-house inhabited by five poor people.

In 1696 Mts. Mary Williamson, of Garboldisham, gave a meadow, called Stulp Meadow, in Garboldisham, and another meadow adjoining to it, to this parish, the church-wardens of which are annually to receive the rent, and to bind out a poor child every year to a trade, and if there be no poor child in the parish, then they are to lay it out to cloath the poor people of the said parish.

SOUTH LOPHAM hath an estate of 30l. a year at Wortham, in Suffolk, which was given by one Purdy for the repairs of the church, and if there was any overplus, to charitable uses, such as the feoffees would apply it to, for the good of the town; the houses and the greatest part of the farm is freehold.

Tradition has it, that Purdy was a Wortham man, and a leper, and gave his estate to this town, because they were willing he should be buried among them, which Purdy was not; but this being a common story told in most places where there are gifts of this nature, we look upon it as tradition only.

Here

Here are three small cottages for the poor, by whom they are now inhabited.

This town hath also sixty acres, called the Frith, taken off the common by the lord's consent, of whom they now hold it; it is marsh ground, and lett at 8*l.* per ann. the income of which is given to the poor, by the seofees, every Christmas and Easter.

Also, a messuage, barn, and sixteen acres of freehold land, lying in the parish, now rented at 15*l.* per ann. settled to repair and beautify the church for ever, and before the tenure of knight's service was abolished, it paid scutage and a relief of 2*s.* 2*d.* ob.

Not many years since the inhabitants purchased a freehold estate in Dickleburgh, rented at 8*l.* a year.

The commons contain as much land as the whole town beside, on all which North and South Lopham are joint commoners, but no other parishes intercommon with them; they are called the Great, or Mill-common, North-green, North-common, and the Fenn-common, and the inhabitants heretofore had all Chimbroke-meadow for common, which they granted to the lord to make his fishery, agreeing to quit all right of commonage in it, and on all other the lord's wastes on the east side the Hundred-ditch, and Park-banks, for which the lord agreed to lay them out an equivalent of other lands upon their Great-common, which was done accordingly, reserving the trees, furze, and bushes, growing, or which should ever hereafter grow on the lands so laid out, which privilege the lord still enjoys, the lands being then called the Severals, and now the Allands, or Ollands.

In

In former times this town was most wood, though now it doth not more abound with it than its neighbouring towns; for it appears from a fine sued in 1383, that there was then great plenty. In that year the countess of Norfolk settled sixty acres of wood, and the pannage and keeping one boar, and twenty-four swine, in her park here, with liberty of gathering acorns for three days, with twenty-five men, on herself, for life; remainder to the countess of Pembroke, for life; after to sir John Hastings, knt. earl of Pembroke, her son, and his heirs; remainder to the heirs of the countess.

The honor of Clare extended into this town, there being divers lands here formerly held thereof.

Robert de Cantuaria, rector of Lopham, was chaplain to Edward II. archdeacon of Essex, prebend of Cumb, in the church of Wells, and of Mapesbury, in St. Paul's church, London, in 1331, and died about 1333.

There passed a decree about 1370, that neither the rectors of Lopham, nor their farmers, should pay any tithe to Garboldisham, though the lands lay in that parish.

Thomas Atte-Wode, rector here, was warden of Gonville-hall, in Cambridge, in 1426, which he held to 1454; he was the first benefactor towards building the hall of that college, and the wardens old room. Dr. Caius (by mistake) calls him Cotwood.

In Feb. 2, 1546, the right Rev. John Salisbury, suffragan bishop of Thetford, was presented by the king; and during the rebellion in the time of James I. Thomas Ellis got possession of this rectory, who

who held it by usurpation till 1663, but was then deprived by six justices, upon the act for holding ana-baptistical errors, and refusing to baptize infants.

June 11, 1713, the Rev. Mr. Robert Hall, A. M. was presented by Thomas duke of Norfolk, who some time after sold the patronage to Dr. Hill, who hath obliged his heirs for ever to present a fellow of St. John's college, in Cambridge. Sir Rowland Hill is now patron. Mr. Hall published a volume of sermons, and another of catechistical lectures, in octavo, and a sermon on the peace.

In 1760 the Rev. Borlase Wingfield was presented to the consolidated rectory of Lopham St. Nicholas, and St. Andrew, by the Rev. Sir Rowland Hill, bart. of Hawkstone, in Shropshire.

This town is remarkable among the country people for the three wonders, (as they they call them); the first is, the self-grown stile, being a tree grown in such a manner, that it forms a regular stile, and serves for such in a common foot-path. The second is, the ox-foot stone, which lies in a meadow so called; it is a large stone of the pebble kind, on which is the fair impression of an ox's foot, which seems to be natural; the fable of it is, that in a great dearth (no-body knows when) there came a cow constantly to that place, which suffered herself to be milked (as long as the dearth lasted) by the poor people, but when that decreased, she struck her foot against that stone, which made the impression, and immediately disappeared. The third is called Lopham-ford, at which place the rivers Little Ouse, and Waveney, (those disagreeing brethren, as Spelman calls them) have their rise, and though there is no greater division than nine feet of ground, yet the former goes west by Thetford to Lynn,

Lynn, and the latter, in a direct contrary course, by Dids, and so to Yarmouth, including this whole county; Leland calls it Lopham-market, (without any authority) and says that it belonged to Richmond fee, being led into that error by its being the place where the gaol of the duke of Norfolk's liberty was kept, of which Swaffham is the head town in this county, where the coroner for the liberty generally resided, and that town belonging to Richmond fee might possibly lead him into this mistake.

QUIDENHAM, or QUIDDENHAM, is the next town eastward of Harling; the church of this village is dedicated to St. Andrew the apostle, and is a rectory, charged in the king's books at 8l. 4s. 9d. 1q. It hath a rectory-house, sixty acres, one road, and sixteen perches of glebe. It was valued in the Norwich taxation at ten marks, and the temporals of the prior of Buckenham were taxed at 6s. 8d.

In 1603 the rector returned in his answer to James I. that there were eighty communicants here.

The church is a small building, having its nave, chancel, and south porch, tiled; the south aisle and north dormitory, leaded, a small steeple, round at bottom, and octangular at top, in which are three bells.

A mural monument on the south side of the chancel, with the arms of Crompton, impaling Holland,—*For Katherine Holland, wife and relict of Robert Crompton; she died Nov. 1653, at Mildenhall, in Suffolk.*

A mural monument at the north-east end of the north wall, with Holland impaling Panton,—*In memory*

mory of *Lady Alathea Sandys*, daughter of *John Panton*, esq. first married with *William lord Sandys*, afterwards with *sir John Holland*, who died May 22, 1679, aged 69.

Under this is an altar-tomb covered with a black marble, with *Holland*, *Knevett*, and *Wigmore*.—*To Sir Thomas Holland, knt. who died February 5, 1625, aged 48.*

A black marble on the floor, by this tomb,—*To lady Holland, the second wife of sir Thomas Holland, and wife to Mr. Edward Barker, buried in the year 1648.*

On a mural monument against the north chancel wall, more west, with *Holland* and *Panton*.—*Sir John Holland, who erected this monument for himself 17 years before his death, marryed the Lady Alathea Sandys; he was sent a commissioner from the parliament to K. C. the First, and received marks of royal favour; he lived an honour, as well as benefactor to his family, being eminent for his particular abilities and integrity, and dyed the 19th of Jan. 1700, after he was created baronet 72 yeares, and in the 98th yeare of his age.*

In a south chancel window is the effigy of the Virgin holding a wafer, on which is this: *Hi visite ye.*

Upon old stalls in the chancel are the arms of *Vere*, *Bardolph*, *Harling*, *Plantagenet*, *Garnish*, *Ufford*, &c.

In the parsonage window is an eagle snatching a piece of a sacrifice, with some of the fire sticking to it, which being carried to her nest, fires it, and burns her young; under the flaming nest is the following:

So

*So let him feare, who'ere he be that dare  
Purloin God's tribute, and the churches share.  
And round the oval is this:—It is destruclive to de-  
vour that which is holy.*

Here are thirteen acres, three rods, and twenty perches of town land in divers pieces, all which (with the glebe) are abuttalled in a survey of the manor, taken in 1587. The rent was 3l. per ann. paid to the church-wardens and overseers for the relief of the poor, and repairs of the church.

The vicar of Kenninghall hath two acres of glebe in Quidenham-field, in the furlong between Semere and Redmere, and three rods in Brymleye-furlong, intermixed with the lands of Mr. James Foster; and Kenninghall parish hath one acre and three rods, in divers pieces in the field. At the survey aforesaid, the yearly out-going rents of the manor were these; to Kenninghall manor, for Hockham's tenement in Quidenham, 16s. 8d. for Thomas Atbridge's tenement there, 16s. 5d. for the foldage and pasturing of the lord's flock of Quidenham, upon the ling of Kenninghall, three days in a week, 1s. to the same manor for the going of five score sheep more upon the same ling 6s. 8d. to the hundred court at Michaelmas 4s. suit fine 4d. blanch farm 2d. to the sheriff's turn 6d. for froward rent to be paid on Whit-Sunday 2d. In all 2l. 5s. 11d. To Banham manor yearly 44s. also 4s. 5d. ob. free-rent 2d. for forwath, 5s. for pasturing great beasts on the moor, 5s. and 3 capons, for 200 sheep going on the moor, from Lammas time till weaning, and shack in the adjoining field, to the manor of Bokenham 4d.

The

The Meer, called Semere, belongs to this manor, two thirds of which is in this parish, and the rest in the parish of Kenninghall; it contains about fourteen acres of water, and had a decoy formerly.

Redemere, or Reedmere, lies on the right hand of the road to Kenninghall, and is now quite grown up, there being no remains of it, but a large reedy swamp.

The hall is a good seat, pleasantly situated. In the library there was a fine Missal with this wrote in it:

*Virgo, parens vixit, sexaginta tribus annis,  
Quatuor et decem fuit in partu salutari,  
Triginta tribus, cum nato vixerat ejus,  
Terque decem annis, postquam Deus estra petivat.*

In the dormitory of the church, on the north side, there are seven coffins of lead: 1. Sir John Holland, the first baronet of the family. 2. Lady Alethea Sandys, his wife. 3. Thomas Holland, esq. of Bury St. Edmund, their son. 4. Sir John Holland, bart. his son. 5. Lady Rebecca Paston, his wife. 6. Sir William Holland, bart. their son. 7. Elizabeth Holland, his sister.

In 1723, at the bottom of the lime pits in this parish, was found a large copper medal, thus circumscribed, ANTONINUS. P. P. T R. coss. iii. on the reverse a genius, and S. C. by which it seems as if the Romans had worked in these pits.

This town paid to the tenths gl. 10s. is now assessed at 274l. 10s. and hath nine houses, and

about fifty inhabitants. Leet-fee to the hundred is 2s. per ann.

Quidenham, Cuidenham, or Guidenham, undoubtedly signifies *Villa Guidonis*, or the country seat of one Guido, or Guy, but who he was we know not, one part of it was Godwic's, a free-man, under the protection of the abbot of Bury, who held it three years after William I. came into the realm; but Godwin Awnd, a man of earl Ralh's, unjustly took it from him; the soc was at first in Kenninghall, it was worth 15s. and after 30s. it was then a mile and a quarter long, and a mile broad, and paid 17d. 1q. geld, being at the survey in the king's hands, who had taken it from Godwin, and committed it to earl Godrick's care.

Another part was given by the Conqueror, to be held at a fee and half, to William de Albany, earl of Arundel and Sussex, who gave one fee of it to Warine de Munchensie, who granted it to Miles Hastings, against whom William, son of Warine de Munchensie, in 1194, brought his action to recover it, but to no purpose; this was after held at one fee of the Munchensies, lords of Winfarthing, and their successors, who held it of Buckenham-castle.

The other half fee was given by the said earl, in the time of Henry I. to the monks of Reading, in Berkshire, in pure alms, who were obliged to grant it to Ralh, surnamed the Great, (*Magnus*) conditionally, that he and his successors should for ever pay an annual rent of one mark, for the health of his own, his ancestors, and successors souls, to make a good dinner, or repast, in that convent,

convent †, on his uncle Josceline's anniversary. It contained a carucate of 100 acres of land in Quidenham, Kenninghall, and Attleburgh, and forty acres in Riddleworth, and divers rents and services, with common of pasture on all the commons in Quidenham, and a fold-course there: From this Ralph it came to Brian, his son, who settled it on William de Hockham, for life, and in 1198 Wimar, his son, had it confirmed to him and his heirs, by William Earl of Arundel and Sussex, from whom it was called

**HOCKHAM'S MANOR, OR FREE-TENEMENT.** John, another son of Brian, agreed to this confirmation, and in 1200 Wimar, and John, jointly conveyed it to Miles Hastings, of Quidenham, who joined it to his other part, with which it now continues; it was always held of the manor of Kenninghall, as of the castle of Buckenham.

One manor and moiety of the advowson belonged to Bury abbey, with the whole flock of it, in the time of king Edward, and was in the abbot's hands till Baldwin, abbot there, infeoffed his brother Frodo in it, in the Conqueror's time, who infeoffed Josceline, who held it at the survey; this Josceline was surnamed de Loddene, or Loddon, and was uncle to William de Albani, earl of Sussex. In 1196 Ernald de Charneles had it, between whom, and Sampson abbot of Bury, there was a fine levied this year, by which he acknowledged, that he held it at one fee of the abbot, by the service of 20s. scutage, and castle-guard to Norwich; it then extended into Quidenham, Acle, Turiston, Elingham, and Norton, and in 1199 it was in

† The donations of this nature, in colleges, are now called *exceedings*.

Miles de Hastings, a younger son of William de Hastings, steward to Henry I.

Miles, his son and heir, was lord in 1264, being then married to Dionise, daughter of Peter Goldington, of Goldington, in Bedfordshire. In the roll of the rebels, and adversaries to Henry III. and prince Edward, his son, after the battles of Lewes and Evesham, this Miles was found to be one, being then lord and patron, and holding eighty acres in demesne, all which were seized, it being proved that he had taken the barons part ; it was afterwards restored, as all those estates were which were seized upon this account ; his brother, William de Hastings, lived here, Miles de Hastings, son of Miles, was lord of Stoke-Goldington, and Gavendish, in Suffolk, Elesford, in Oxfordshire, and Dayleford, in Woreestershire, in which family they continued till after 1345. In 1355 John de Harling purchased a third part of the manor and advowson of William Furneaux, of Sheffield, who married one of the three daughters and co-heiresses of Miles Hastings, and another third part, anno 1362, of sir William de Ingalesthorpe, knt. and Eleanor his wife, and in 1371 the other third part of Tho. Caus and James de Heigham, by which means he had the whole manor, from which time it passed as East Harling, till sir Edmund Bedingfield sold Harling, and continued this in his family.

FALCONER'S MANOR was made up of different parts ; it belonged at the survey to Roger Bigot, and went to Walter Bigot, of Fornacet, a younger brother of that family, and from him to Richard Bigot, his son, who conveyed a part to Ralph of Kenninghall, called the Falconer. Edmund de Bello Campo, or Beauchamp, had thirty acres of it, and

the moiety of the advowson ; he left it to John de Beauchamp, his son, who in 1287, by deed enrolled in the King's-bench, granted it to Edward, son of sir William Charles, knt. of whom it was purchased by Miles Hastings, who joined it to his manor, and so had the whole advowson : Another part went to Simon Bigot, who was lord in 1280, John le Falconer being then lord of Richard Bigot's tenement. In this year Richard le Baxter, and Agatha Maynwaryn, are said to have a manor here, but it was only a part of Maynwaryn's manor in East-Harling, that extended hither, and soon after John le Falconer got Simon Bigot's part, and so became lord of both ; William Hastings, of Quidenham, gave Simon Falconer, father of John, a messuage and lands here, which he added to this manor and Maud de Hastings conveyed a quarter of a fee out of her manor to him, this whole manor being then held of her manor at half a fee, and paid 20s. relief, and from the time it was purchased by Ralph le Falconer, and always went as Falconer's manor, in East-Harling,

The manor which belonged to the family, surnamed de Quidenham, was joined to this by one of the Falconers. William de Quidenham lived in the time of Henry II. Hugh, who died in 1319, was the last of this family that was lord, though it did not extinguish till after 1400, for then William Quidenham lived at Quidenham.

The family surnamed De-ponte de Quidenham, or atte Brygge, continued here from the time of Henry III. to about 1500, and had a free-tenement held of Kenninghall manor, at 16s. 5d. a year, which is now joined to the other manor ; and thus all the manors and free-tenements became joined in

sir Henry Bedingfield, knight of the bath, in right of the heiress of the Tudenham's; he left it to Peter Bedingfield, his fourth son, who settled here: he had two wives; by his last, who was daughter of John Moninges, of Greynford, in Kent, he had John Bedingfield, esq. his son and heir, who married Alice, daughter of Humphrey Kervile, of Wigenhall St. Mary's, who out-lived him, and after married sir John Sulyard, knt. who was lord here in 1550, her first husband dying Jan. 1, 1545: at her death Humphrey Bedingfield, esq. her son, became lord, who in 1572 sold it to John Holland, gent. and his heirs.

Holland, or Holland. This honourable family flourished in the time of the Confessor, and took their name either from Holand, in West Derby hundred, in the county of Lancaster, or from Holand in Lincolnshire, both which were the antient possessions of this house. Sir Otho de Holland lived before the conquest, and left sir Stephen, his son, whose grandson, sir Ralph, lived at the conquest, and held divers lands of the Conqueror's gift.

Sir Robert de Holland, knt. who was summoned a baron of parliament, July 29, in the 8th of Edward II. *anno 1314*, founded the priory of Black Monks at Holand in Lancashire; by his wife, Maud, daughter and co-heiress to Alan, lord Ashby de-la-Zouch, he had a numerous issue; his eldest son, Robert, was a baron in parliament in the time of Edward III, and dying without issue male, left only Maud, married to John Lovell, of Tichmarsh, afterwards Lord Lovell.

{ Sir Otho, Otes, or Eton Holland, knight of the garter, was at the siege of Calais, attended with three

three esquires, where he was taken prisoner †, he bore a cross pattee gul. upon the shoulder of his lion, for his gentilitial distinction: sir Thomas Holland also was at that siege, attended by four esquires, and four archers on horseback, he was summoned as a baron in parliament the 27th of Edward III. and was earl of Kent, and baron Wake, of Liddell, in right of Joan, his wife, sister and heiress to John Plantagenet, earl of Kent, and of his wife Margaret, sister and heir to Thomas lord Wake, which lady afterwards married the Black Prince. From this Thomas proceeded the Hollands, earls of Kent, one of which was advanced to the dignity of duke of Surrey; and by a younger son, the dukes of Exeter, and earls of Huntingdon, some time enjoying the title of Earl of Ivory, in Normandy, and Edward Holland, Earl of Montaigne: The line of Kent expired the 9th of Edward IV. for want of male issue, as did also about that time the lines of Exeter and Huntingdon; their lives are written at large in Mr. Dugdale's Baronage, from fol. 73, to fol. 83 of the second vol. for which reason there is no occasion to repeat it here.

The fourth son of sir Robert de Holland, first mentioned, was John, who by the daughter and heiress of sir Andrew de Medestede was progenitor to the Hollands of Weare, in Devonshire, his 5th son was William of Denton, in Lancashire, and from him branched the Hollands of Clifton,  
and

† From the roll of the knights that were with the noble and victorious prince, King Edward III. in his wars in France and Normandy, and at his winning of Caen and Calais. In the hands of Mr. Gooch Waites, of Lynn.

and from them, by a second son, the Hollands of Sutton.

Brian Holland, Esq. of Denton-hall, was the first of the family that settled in Norfolk.

Among the evidences of the Hollands, there is a very large genealogical table of the family of the Hollands in Lincolnshire, from which house all the families of this name are descended. It was collected by George Holland, one of the family, in 1563, and continued since to 1601. It begins thus :  
 " Estovinghall, here ensueth the pedigree of the Hollandes of the house of Estovenhall, in the partes of Holland, in the countie of Lincolne, and do dwell there, without alteration or change, eyther of house or name, by xiith descent before the conquest, &c."

Sir Ralph Holland, who descended in a direct line from that sir Ralph that lived in the Conqueror's time, was entombed in Swineshead abbey, in Lincolnshire, anno 1262, as were also others of this noble family.

In 1340 Thomas Holland married the *Devilish Dame*, called Elizabeth, daughter to sir Piers Tempest, knt. he spent his life in the Holy-land, and came home but every 7th year; Thomas Holland was first comptroller of the household, and after treasurer to the Duke of Richmond, and Hamond Holland, his brother, was first apprentice in London, and after, by great conjectures\*, was thought to be of great authority under the Grand Turk.

\* Vide Blomefield,

" The

"The country of Holland being at the Conquest very strong, by abundance of waters, the Hollands, the Welles, and the lords of Kyme, being confederate together (as old men, from man to man have credibly reported) kept out the Conqueror by force, till at length he had it by composition and agreement, that they should keep their lands still, and so the grant to the Hollands at that time from the Conqueror †."

But to return to the Norfolk family. Brian Holland, of Denton-house, in Lancashire, esq. lived in the time of Henry VII. whose son, John Holland, gent. of Wortwell-hall, in Reddenhall, in Norfolk, servant and trustee to the Duke of Norfolk, died Feb. 10, 1542. His eldest son was John Holland, a divine, exiled by Queen Mary for his religion, whose son, Philemon Holland. D. D. the great translator, was born about 1551, and had two sons, 1. Henry Holland, author of the *Heroologia Anglica*, born about 1582, alive 1640; 2. a younger brother, author of *Hollandi Posthuma*. \* Brian Holland of Wortwell, esq. escheator of Norfolk,

† George Holland's account of his own family.

\* Thuanus in his history, vol. 2. p. 520, says, that one Brian Holland was executed in 1569, by Catlyn the chief justice, for the conspiracy in which the duke of Norfolk was principal, (whose family the Hollands served faithfully, being their trustees and chief managers of their estate in this county): whether he means this Brian, we cannot positively say, but imagine he does, and if so, his being executed is a mistake, for we find a pardon passed the seal March 8, 1573, by which the queen out of her abundant grace, at the humble request of John Holland, esq. pardoned Brian Holland, late of Redenhall, gent. his father, and Edward Fisher, late of Cringleford, yeoman, who were indicted for being in a conspiracy with John Appleyard, of Norwich, esq. John Throgmorton, of the same, gent. George Redman, late of Cringleford,

folk, in the year 1549 married Katherine, daughter and heiress of Peter Payne of Roudham, in Norfolk, who died in 1583, and left Roudham, Newhall, and Trusbutts manors to her; their son and heir, John Holland, of Wortwell, esq. in the year 1586, is commended as an ingenious painter, in a book, called "the excellent Art of Painting," page 20. He purchased Quidenham, and Buckenham park, and married Mary, daughter of sir Edmund Windham, of Felbrigg, by whom he had sir Thomas Holland, of Quidenham. knt. and of Wortwell-hall, who died Feb. 25, 1629, aged forty-eight years; he was buried here, and died seised of Sexton's manor in Icklingham, with the advowson of St. James's church there. He was knighted by James I. at Greenwich, May 24, 1628: he married, first, Mary, daughter of sir Thomas Knevett, of Ashwellthorpe,

ford, gent. and Thomas Brook, late of Rollesby, gent. with abundance more, unlawfully assembled at Cringleford, on the 24th of June, in the 12th year of her reign (which was 1569, the same year that Brian is said to have suffered,) designing treasonably to compass the queen's death, and to make open war against her in her realm, and that they put such conspiracy in effect on the 25th day of June, at Trowse in the said county, and at divers other times and places in the county, with arms offensive and defensive, "as hand-gonnes, daggers, pistolets, privie coats, and coats of defence," and that at Trowse on the said day, and at other times and places, they openly declared these words, "We will procure the commons to rise, and expulse the strangers out of the cyty of Norwich, and other places in England, and when we have levied a powre, we will lcke about us, and so many as will not take our partes, we will hang them up:" And the said Brian and Edward Fisher, with Christopher Platers, of Norwich, gent. Clement Harwarde, of the same, gent. Anthony Nolloth, of Yarmouth, gent. and John Rochester, of Norwich, yeoman, well knowing the traiterous designs of Appleyard and his rebels, and their intentions, yet went to Cringleford on the 24th of June, to be aiding and abetting to their treasonable designs.

Ashwellthorpe, knt. she died in childbed ; second, Mary, daughter and sole heiress of sir Edward Wigmore, of Twickenham, in Middlesex, knt. he was succeeded by John Holland, born at Ashwellthorpe in the year 1603, was receiver, chief steward, and keeper of the earl of Arundel's park at Kenninghall in 1626, created bart. June 15, in the fifth year of Charles I. 1629, being the 288th baronet by creation ; he died here in 1700 ; his wife was Alathea, daughter and co-heiress of John Panton, of Brinsford, in Denbighshire, widow of William lord Sandys, of the Vine in Hampshire : By her he had several children ; the eldest, Thomas Holland, Esq. died before his father, in the year 1698 : by Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Mead, of Lofts, in Essex, esq. he had sir John Holland, of Quidenham, bart. who married lady Rebecca, youngest daughter of William Paston, of Oxnead, earl of Yarmouth, and had issue, first, Charles and Elizabeth, who died young ; second, sir William Holland, of Quidenham, bart. married to the daughter of Mr. Upton, a Spanish merchant ; third, Isabella-Diana Holland ; and fourth, Charlotte Holland, sole heiresses of sir William Holland, who died without issue.

Quidenham was the ancient seat of sir William Holland, bart. who at his decease left two sisters, Isabella-Diana, and Charlotte Holland, his heiresses, who in 1731 presented the late rector, Mr. Hall, to this living, on the resignation of the Rev. James Baldwin, a learned divine, rector of Bunwell and Carleton-Rode.

Mr. Bristol, a Portugal merchant, and brother to the widow of the late earl of Buckinghamshire, and father to Mrs. Hobart, wife of the honorable Henry Hobart, youngest brother to the present earl of Buckingham,

Buckingham, purchased Quidenham of the Holland family.

The late earl of Albemarle, commander in chief of his majesty's forces at the reduction of the Havannah in 1762, and knight of the garter, purchased Quidenham, with the manor, and whole town, of Mr. Bristol. His lordship married a daughter of sir John Miller, bart. of Chichester, the present dowager lady Albemarle, and left a son by her, George, the present earl of Albemarle, a minor.

Quidenham park was greatly improved by the late earl of Albemarle, is a fine situation, and for water and wood may vie with most of the parks in the county of Norfolk. The house is a good old family house: probably, had the late earl lived, he would have built a new one, having so many beautiful spots in the park to set it upon, and indeed the many plantations he enriched the park with seem to have been arranged with that design.

Kenninghall church and village, and the village of Eccles, adjoining to Quidenham, seem as formed and traced out on purpose to give additional beauty to the park at Quidenham, by the fine prospects they afford.

RIDLESWORTH is a rectory to which Gashorpe is consolidated, both being sworn of the clear value of 48l. 9s. ob. and at 4l. 13s. 4d. in the king's books. It hath a rectory-house, and twenty-nine acres three roods of glebe.—The temporals of Thetford monks here were taxed at 10s.

This town is called in Doomsday-book Redelefuorda, that is, the *word*, or village, abounding with

with reeds ; it belonged to Orgar, a free-man, at the Confessor's survey, and to Humfrey, son of Alberic, at the Conqueror's, who had only this in the county ; it was half a league long, and as much broad, and paid 11d. ob. geld.

This afterwards became the lordship of Ralph Peverell, of whose honor of Peverell it was held at the fourth part of a fee.

In 1255 Jeffrey Tregoz held this manor of the king at a quarter of a fee, of whom Peter de Mealings, or Melding, of Burston, held it by that service ; this Peter in 1249 had settled it by fine on Henry de Bathonia, justice itinerant, and Philip de Flegg released his right to him ; Aliva, relict of Henry, died in 1273, leaving it to John, her son and heir, who in 1276 was summoned to attend Edward I. in his expedition against the Welsh : in 1290 he held it of Remigius de Melding ; and John de Bathun dying this year, left only Joan, his daughter and heiress, who married John de Bohun, or Boon. In 1279 it was held of Simon de Furneaux, as of his manor of Middle Harling, who held it of Robert de Monteal, and he of Remigius de Melding.

In 1330 Thomas le Archer, rector of Elmsete, and Richard, his brother, were lords ; and this year they settled it by fine on Roger le Archer, of Flocton, in right of his wife, Agnes, heiress to John de Bohun.

In 1345 Roger, son of Roger le Archer, held it of Tregoz, and he of the king.

In 1384 sir John Roos, kn. presented, and had it in right of Beatrice, his wife, the heiress of Roger le Archer, who presented in 1393, being then a widow ;

at her death their two daughters inherited; Ann married Thomas Sakevyle, and Cecily, Christopher L'Estrange, esq. on whom it was settled by fine, for their lives; remainder to Thomas Sakevyle, and Ann, his wife, and their heirs, it being now held of Thomas Rookes, esq. who held it of John duke of Bedford, as parcel of Richmond honor.

Thomas Rookes, son of the said Thomas, became lord and patron about 1456, whether in right of Elizabeth, his wife, or not, we cannot say, and so continued to 1515; and then sold it, and levied a fine to sir William Waldegrave, and sir Philip Calthorpe, knts. from which family it came to the Drurys\*, who took their name from a village in Normandy, whence their ancestor came with William the Conqueror, and had no other name than that of Drury; his son, John Drury, esq. settled at Thurston, in the county of Suffolk; at which place John, his son, Henry, his grandson, and John, his great grandson, lived many years. Henry Drury, of Thurston, esq. son of the last John, had two wives; by Hawise Greene, of Barkway, his first wife, he had three sons, the two youngest of which, viz. Nigell, was sheriff of London, and sir Roger was parson of Bradfield, in Suffolk; John Drury, of Thurston, esq. the eldest son and heir, married Amable, daughter of Thomas Newton, esq. by whom he had sir Roger Drury, parson of Beketon, and Nicholas Drury, of Thurston, esq.

\*. There is (says Blomefield) an exceeding fine pedigree of this family in lady Drury's hands, with all its numerous branches, in which the lives and honorable actions of many of the family are set forth at large upon good authority, the deeds and records being quoted for what is said; but having no opportunity to make proper extracts, I could add nothing to this account, (which I had collected before) else should not have passed by such an ancient family in such a cursory manner.

esq. his eldest son and heir, who married Joan, daughter and heiress of sir Simon Saxham, of Thurston aforesaid, by whom he had three sons: sir Roger Drury, of Rougham, in Suffolk, knt. was his eldest son; he and his descendants bore the paternal coat, as it had hitherto been always borne, without a cross tau, but with a label of three points, as the cognisance of the eldest branch: John Drury, the third son, bore the same arms, with his proper difference: Nicholas Drury, of Saxham, the second son, went to the Holy Land, at which time he added the crofs tau to his arms, which he after bore, as did all his descendants; he married Joan Heath, of Mildenhall, by whom he had two sons; Henry Drury, of Ickworth, esq. his eldest son, and Roger Drury, of Hausted, in Suffolk, his second son, who had three wives; by Amy, his first wife, he had no issue; Ann, his third wife, was daughter and coheiress of William Hanningfield, of Suffolk, and by Felice, daughter of William Denton, of Besthorpe, in Norfolk, he had three sons and one daughter, viz. John, his eldest son; William Drury, of Besthorpe, his second son, from whom descended the Drurys, of Besthorpe; Catherine, married to sir Henry L'Estrange, of Hunstanton; and sir Robert Drury, of Halsted, or Hausted, knt. privy counsellor to Henry VII. his third son, married Ann, eldest daughter of sir William Calthorpe, knt. from whom the Drurys, of Ridlesworth, are descended.

Sir Robert Drury, of Egerly, in Bucks, second son of sir Robert Drury, of Halsted, presented here as trustee to his son and daughter, and died about 1575; he fought a duel with his cousin, sir William Woodhouse, of Waxham, in which both were wounded.

Sir Drue Drury, of Linsted, in Kent, knt. gentleman usher of the privy chamber to queen Elizabeth, third son of Sir Robert Drury, of Egerly, died April 29. 1617, aged 99 years, and was buried here; he built Ridlesworth-hall, and was the first of this family that settled there; he was one of the keepers of Mary Queen of Scots before she was beheaded, and some time governor of the Tower. Sir Drue Drury, his son and heir, was born October 7, 1588; married the 28th of June, 1608; created baronet the 7th of May, 1627, and died in 1632: by marriage both moieties of this estate was brought into the Drurys. He was succeeded by sir Drue Drury, bart. whose son, sir Robert Drury, bart. died April 7. 1712, without issue; he married for his third wife, Diana, daughter of G. Vilet, of Pinkeney-Hall, in Norfolk, esq. who held the manor and advowson for life. The Rev. Mr. Wake married a sister of sir Robert Drury's, whose son, Mr. William Wake, after lady Drury's death, was heir to the estate. Sir William Wake, bart. of Courteen-hall, in Northamptonshire, and member in parliament for Bedford, is the present proprietor, and lord of Ridlesworth.

The leet belongs to the hundred, the leet fee being 2s. and all liberties belong to the leet, the lords of this manor never claiming any, it not being once named in the returns to the *quo warrantos*. The manor pays a rent of 7s. per ann. to the duke of Norfolk, as to his hundred of Guiltcross. There was a rent of 1d. a year paid to the lord of Middle Harling manor, of which it was held by the said payment, and suit of court, for which Thomas Sakevyle, lord of Ridlesworth in 1472, was distrained, as was sir Drue Drury, knt. in 1589, and again in 1598, when he had two horses seized for this and other rents, for lands he held in Ridlesworth.

The

The customs are these : the eldest son is heir, and the fine is at the lord's will. This manor is become very small, the whole town being purchased in, so that there are not above four or five acres held by copy of court roll of it.

Here are (Blomefield) three houses, and about thirty inhabitants ; it is now assessed at 170l. to the land tax.

The family surnamed de Redelsworth, or Ridlesworth, is very ancient, and had a good estate here, and in Gasthorpe, where they were some time lords, so early as 1380.

In 1289 Peter de Redelsworth had a tenement and lands of the gift of Robert de Montealt, lord of the hundred, which he held by knight's service, and 3s. 4d. relief.

In 1371 Thomas Peter de Ridlesworth was lord of Gasthorpe, and Westhall, and died in 1422.

In 1433 Thomas de Ridelesworth settled his manor of Westhall on sir William Berdewell, and Robert Berdewell, his son, who inherited about 1450. Agnes and Margaret, sisters of the said Thomas, dying without issue.

In the hall there are several family pictures; some of which are much injured, and a curious old painting on board, containing ten persons, each having his arms, or a cypher, over his head, and an inscription at his feet. 1. Johannes de Lacy, constable of Chester, and first founder of St. Bennet's abbey, at Stanlowe, in Cheshire. 2. Roger de Lacy, constable of Chester, the second founder of that abbey. 3.

John de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, the third founder.  
 4. Edmund de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, the fourth founder. 5. Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, the fifth founder, who translated or removed the religious of this abbey to Whaley, in Lancashire. 6. St. Thomas earl of Lancaster, son-in-law and heir of Henry de Lacy; D'Angleterre Lambell de Fraunce. 7. Henry Grismond, earl of Lancaster, brother and heir of St. Thomas. 8. Henry, the first duke of Lancaster, son and heir of Henry earl of Lancaster. 9. John of Gaunt, second duke of Lancaster, brother-in-law and heir of Henry duke of Lancaster: gul. a castle or. (he being king of Castile) quartering, or. a lion ramp. az. 10. Henry IV. third duke of Lancaster, and king of England: arms of England.

James earl of Desmonde, *anno 1600*. Mr. Henrye Birde, preacher, *anno 1583*, *atat. 66*. *Spero sed non spiro.*

Mr. Thomas Aldersey, *anno 1588*, *atat. 66*.—Sir Robert Drury, knt.—Robert Drury, esq.—Drue Drury, *anno 1556*, *atat. 24*, *Droit et devaunt.*

Sir William Drury, lord chief justice of Ireland, by whom hangs an old plan of Edinburgh castle, and two armies before it, round which is this: “ Sir William Drury, knt. general of the Englishe wanne, Edenburgh castle, 1573.” On the picture is this: “ Sir William Drury, knt. marshall of Barwick, lord general of this journy, and after lord president of Munster, and lastly died lord justice of Ireland, *anno 1579*.” The crest and arms of Drury, without the tau, with fourteen coats, all which are imperfect.

The

The arms of the following persons are also most of them imperfect, but their names remain, all which were with the lord general at the siege:—Mr. Henry Killigray, ambassador; sir George Carie, knt. sir Thomas Cecil, eldest son to lord Burleigh; sir Francis Trusbill, knt. sir Henry Lee, knt. Mr. Michael Carie; Mr. Henry Carie; Mr. William Knowles, afterwards knight; Mr. Dieyr; Mr. Cotton; Mr. Thomas Sutton; Mr. Kelwaye; sir William Selbye; Mr. Tilney; sir William Killegray.

Ann Drury, 1597, *at.* 12.—Frances Drury, 1597,  
*at.* 11.

Sir Walter Mildmay, knt. *at.* 52, 153—*Virtute non vi*.—Sir Francis Russell; sir Robert Bell, lord chief baron, *at.* 41; lady St. John, 1599; lady Catharine, countess of Huntingdon.

A picture of one of the Jermyn family, on which is the crest and arms of Jermyn, Rushbrook, Heveningham, Jervill, Giffing, Redsham, Reppes, Burgoine, and Botesham.—Motto,—*Nec ab oriente, nec ab occidente.*

Frances countess of Hertford, 1596. Edward earl of Hertford, 1580. Peregrine lord Willoughby, of Erseby. John lord of St. John of Bletsoe. Mr. George Allington, *en Dieu est tout*, with his crest and arms.

A man writing these words:—*De governoure veut gratia.*

*Anno 1601, etat. 24*, and these imperfect verses:

*Sardanapalus ait, pereunt mortalia cuncta,*  
*Ut crepitum ----- : podice disiliens*

## HUNDRED OF

*Quæ pereunt --- fugiuntque similia fumo:  
Aurea quam --- nil nisi fumus erunt,  
At mens culta viro, post funera clarior extat  
----- vana volat.*

An archbishop of Canterbury, with this motto :—  
*Vincit qui patitur, ætat 68.*—Catherine lady Drury. Sir  
Drue Drury, kn. ætat. 68, 1599.—*Droyt et devaunt.*

Sir Drue Drury that built the house ; his wife on  
one side, a lady, daughter of Lovell, on the other  
side ; his arms on the house are, Drury, with the tau,  
quartering Finch, Waldegrave, impaling Derham,  
quartering gul. a chev. vair, sab. & arg. between  
three crowns of the second.

The church hath a square tower and one bell ; the  
nave and south porch are thatched, the chancel tiled.

In 1474 Thomas Nelde, of this town, held three  
acres freehold of Middle Harling manor, to the use  
of this parish, to repair the church for ever.

In the chancel, against the south wall, is an altar-  
tomb of black and white marble, on which is this  
inscription :—*Memoriæ sacrae Roberti Drury, baronetti,  
filij Dragonis Drury, baronetti, antiqua prosapia oriundi,  
multis retro sæculis præclara, ingenij dotibus ornati, poli-  
tiore literatura imbuti, tres duxit uxores, terria fuit  
Diana, filia Georgij Vilet, de Pinkney-Hall, in comitatu  
Norfolciae, armigeri, quæ pietate vera, & amore conjugali,  
hoc monumentum posuit ; obiit vigessimo septimo die Aprilis,  
anno Domini 1712, ætatis suæ 78°.—Drury impaling  
Vilet.*

On two flat marbles at the altar, Drury's arms and  
crest, impaling Harsnet.—*Here lieth the body of Dame  
Elinor*

*Elinor Drury\**, second daughter of Samuel Harsnet, of Great Fransham, in Norfolk, esq. the reliet of William Marsham, of Stratton Strawley, gent. the second wife of sir Robert Drury, of Ridlesworth, in the county of Norfolk, bart. who was unfortunately killed in the fatal hurricane, Nov. the 27th, in the year of our Lord, 1703.

Fisher's arms in a lozenge.—*In memory of the pious and virtuous Mrs. Mary Fisher\**, whose soul took her flight to heaven in the furious hurricane, on Nov. the 27th, 1703. This monument of respect is dedicated by her true and faithful lover, Anthony Drury, of Mendham, in Norfolk, gent.

In the east chancel window is a hatchment with the arms of Drury, quartering Harsnet, and Marsham.

Against the north chancel wall is a fine monument for sir Drue Drury, whose effigy is in armor, in a kneeling posture, under a canopy supported by two angels; a book lies on a desk before him, the monument being adorned with the arms of Drury, and other families; Drury also impales Wingfield, Deane, Boteler, &c.

Condignæ famæ & memoriæ factum, nobilis &  
• illustris viri Drugonis Drury, militis, filij tertij  
• Roberti Drury, de Egerly, in comitatu Bucking-  
ham, filij secundi Roberti Drury, de Hasted, in co-  
mitatu Suffolke, militum, reginæ Elizabethæ, a  
primo regni anno, folius silentiarij, deinde Jacobo  
regi nostro, & anno 1596, præsidis Turris Londi-  
nensis, (annos nonaginta novem, summa cum laude,  
& integritate complevit) bis conjugio connexi, pri-

K 4

mo

\* These two ladies were killed as they lay together in bed, by a fall of a stack of chimnies.

mo Dominæ Elizæ: Woodhouse, filij Philippi Calthorp, militis, secundo, Katharinæ Finch, filij & hæride Gulielmi Finch, de Linsted, in com: Cant: ar: per secundam uxorem relictæ Drugo Drury, unicus filius ejus, uxorem duxit annam ætate primam, et unam ex cohaeredibus Edwardi Waldegrave, de Lawford, in comitatu Essex, armig: Elizabethæ prima ejus filia, nupta fuit venerabili Thomæ Wingefield, militi, de Leveringham, in comitatu Suffolke, Anna, filia secunda Johanni Deane, de Deane, aula comitat: Essex predicto, et Francesca filia tertia Roberto Botler, de Woodhall, in comitat: Heriford: militibus ipse Drugo Drury miles præclarus, singulari integritate, pietate, virtute, (et nulli in terris inferior) charitate præcipue precellens, apud Ridlesworth in comitatu Norfolke, 29 Aprilis, 1617, mortem (obijt)†.

On an altar-tomb against the north wall.—' Reponuntur hic reliquiæ Drugonis Drurii, primi hujus familiæ baronetti, filij et hæredis Drugoni Drurij, equitis aurati, qui post 24 connubij sui cum Anna Waldegrave prædilecta sua uxore evolutos soles, triplici (ex octo natis) tenera et in minoritate, multæ tamen plena spei superstite sobole, Drugone, Gulielmo, & Catherina, in 44 perigrinationes suæ anno, ex hac misericordiarum eremo, 1632, in Cœlestem migravit patriam, multiplici quin & candida, mundo amicisque valde lugentibus, relicta fama, magnæ suæ erga Deum veramque religionem pietatis, affiduæ & laboriosæ pro republica curæ, ac integerimæ versus amicos, interiores præsertim ac vicinis, fidelitatis\*'.  
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There is a hatchment over the north church door with the arms of Attwood—*Ex funera vita*—to Richard

† Le Neve, vol. I. p. 592

\* *Ibidem*, p. 140.

chard Attwood, A. M. who died May 3. 1734. aged 56; and—*Juxta humatur frater ejus, Gulielmus Attwood, mercator Indiæ Occidentalis, qui terra marique, multa passus, in tuto jam a malis requiescit, obiit Oct. 17. 1730, ætatis 57.*

December 9. 1681, this church of Ridlesworth was consolidated with Gasthorpe; and in 1767 the Rev. Charles Wake was presented to the rectory by lady Sarah Wake, widow of the late sir William Wake, bart.

RUSHFOOD, or RUSHWORTH\*, or the place abounding with rushes, (for so we take the name to signify) was in king Edward's days one league and a half long, one mile broad, and paid 11d. ob. gelt; at the first survey the abbey of Ely had a carucate of land, then worth 20s. but was sunk to 8s. value at the second; it was soon after held of the earl of Gloucester, at a quarter of a fee, by the heirs of Bartholomew de Beaumont, who in some records (by mistake) is called Breamyffon; but in the time of Henry III. this part was in Nicholas de Gonville, whose son and heir, John de Gonville, in the reign of Edward I. paid 10s. relief for it to the earl of Gloucester, from which time it continued in that family, joined to the head manor, till the foundation of the college, on which it was settled; and when the head manor came to the college, was joined to it again, and so hath continued ever since. This part was some time called Boldam's manor, and seems to lie on the Suffolk side, except a part of it, which was in Shadwell.

At the first survey one Uluric had sixty acres here, which he held of the abbey, all which he forfeited to  
the

\* In Doomsday-book it is wrote Rusceuorda, and Riscurda.

the Conqueror by not paying 8l. that he had forfeited to that king, who gave it to John, nephew of Waleram, from whom it came to Roger Bigot with the above, who gave it to the monks of Thetford, together with Gunner, of Ridlesworth, and his land, when he founded that monastery.

Of the CAPITAL MAMOR Bundo was the first lord that we meet with, and then Ulketel; afterwards it came to the earls Warren, from them to the Bardolphs, who held it by the service of half a fee of the castle at Acre; from the Bardolphs it came to the Lerlings, and was held by them by the same service, as belonging to the Bardolphs honor of Wormegay.

Sir Ralph de Lerling, knt. was lord and patron of Lerling and Rushworth, and Newton, in Cambridgeshire. In 1218 sir Richard de Lerling, his son, purchased a moiety of Lerling advowson of Richard de Denevere; and in 1252 had free-warren allowed him in all his lands in the aforesaid towns, and in Fouldon and Palgrave.

Maud de Lerling, the heiress-general of the family, (but whose daughter she was we do not find) married William de Gonville in 1304, and carried the estate to that family. This William de Gonville in 1285 had the king's protection, being summoned to go into France with him, to join the French king against the king of Arragon. He was succeeded by sir Edmund Gonville, priest, founder of Rushworth college, of Gonville-hall, in Cambridge, and (as some say) of the friars preachers in Thetford, and of St. John's hospital, at Lynn; he was first rector of Thelvetham, or Feltam, in Suffolk, instituted December the 4th, 1320, by Adam de Tyryngtome, rector of Hopton, his proxy, he being then in priest's orders; he resigned

signed this for Rushworth rectory in 1326, and after he had established it a collegiate church, in 1342, he was instituted to Terrington, of which he died rector in 1350.

Sir Nicholas de Gonvile, knt. was brother and heir to sir Edmund de Gonvile, the founder, whose son, John Gonvile, esq. paid 10s. relief for his manor in Schadwell and Rushworth, of his own inheritance, to the earl of Gloucester, and 10s. for Rushworth manor, which was of his grandfather's inheritance. In this family it remained till Joan, or Jane, heiress-general of Gonvile, married sir Robert Herling, knt., whose only daughter and heiress, Ann, married, first, sir William Chamberlain, knight of the garter, buried with his wife under the arched tomb in East Harling chancel; second, sir Robert Wingfield, knt. third, John lord Scroop, of Bolton; by his will, dated 1494, at East Harling, he ordered, if he died in Norfolk (as he did, viz. July 12, 1494, at Harling) to be buried in the Black Friars at Thetford. She married lord Scroop in 1492, was a great benefactress to this college, and died in 1500.

In 1470, in the 10th of Edward IV. this lady procured licence for the master and fellows to receive forty marks per ann. in mortmain, upon which she and her trustees settled her manors of Rushworth and Larling, then valued at 20l. a year, in part of the said sum of forty marks, and thenceforward they continued in the college till its dissolution, and then passed with it to the earl of Surrey.

There was another manor, or capital messuage, in this town, and in Brettenham, Bridgeham, and Thetford, held at half a fee of the honor of Clare, by William de Brettenham, and John de Brookedish, in 1297, and

and by Robert Baynard, and others, in 1333. In 1411, May 8, Henry IV. licensed Hugh Stoppulifly to grant the whole in mortmain to the prior of the monks at Thetford, on condition that the king should be paid 50s. every vacancy. It went with that house at its dissolution to the Norfolks, and at the duke's attainder fell to the crown.

In 1591 queen Elizabeth granted to William Tipper, and Robert Dawe, and their heirs, all the manor, fishery, lands, foldages, &c. in Rushworth, Thetford, and Gafthorpe, in Norfolk, and Suffolk, which late belonged to the monks at Thetford, to be held by the rent of 2s. per ann. of her manor of East Greenwich, in socage, and not in *capite*, and soon after it was joined to Rushworth manor, with which it now remains.

As to the separate fishery belonging to it, that lay in Shadwell, or Schadewell (which is a hamlet to Rushworth) and extended from Shadwell-mill to Berdewell's-mill, in Harling Thorpe, on the south side of the river, and had liberty of a boat, and a pool, or wear, towards the latter end of the 12th century Philip de Schadewell, who lived by the river, owned it. In 1362 Adam de Schadewell conveyed it to William de Rothyng, parson of West Harling, &c. and their heirs, by the name of East-fenn-fishery. In 1399 James de Brettenham had it, and sold it to Thomas Gardiner, clerk; and in 1411 it was conveyed to Thetford priory as aforesaid.

In 1252 the abbot of Waltham, in Essex, had lands here, and in Scarning and Guist, in all which he had free-warren allowed him, for which he paid a rent of 12d. a year to Gonvile's manor.

Shadwell

Shadwell is a hamlet to Rushworth, so called from a well, or spring, which rises among the trees upon the hill's side, it being plainly the *shady-well*. In this hamlet the father of the present proprietor, John Buxton, esq. built an handsome lodge, called Shadwell-lodge. This gentleman being an excellent architect, built several seats in this county, of which Bixley-Hall, near Norwich, the seat of the late sir Randall Ward, bart. was one.

John Buxton, esq. the present proprietor, has made a very extensive water here, and ornamented the country round, naked and barren before, with many beautiful plantations (1779).

Rushworth was a rectory, and so continued till sir Edmund Gonvile, or Gonvile, who was both patron and rector, founded a college for a custos, or master, and five chaplains, who were brethren, or fellows, and were to elect their master, and present him at Larling to the founder's heirs, who if they were there, were to present him to the bishop, and not otherwise, after which he was to be installed by mandate to the archdeacon; upon this foundation the church was appropriated to the college, and no vicar endowed, because the cure of the parish was wholly laid upon the master, and each of them paid eight marks first-fruits at their installation; at the dissolution it was granted to be held in the same manner as the master held it, so that it hath been served ever since by a stipendiary curate, nominated by the impropriator, who in 1603 was returned in the answers of the parsons to receive 15l. a year of the proprietary for his stipend, Thomas Wolf, clerk, being then curate, there being then sixty-six communicants in the parish, and now (Blomefield) there are seven or eight houses, and about sixty inhabitants.

October

October 5, 1326, sir Edmund de Gonvile, priest, was presented by sir Nicholas Gonvile, knt. patron. This sir Edmund, while he was rector, perfected his foundation, which he is said to have designed as a seminary for Gonvile-hall, in Cambridge; he was the last rector, and had quitted this church before Jan. 20, 1342; for then he was instituted into Terrington, in Marshland.

January 21, 1371, sir Thomas le Mey was elected by the fellows, who had no presentation, the Gonviles being not resident at Larling: the fellows election was returned to the bishop, and the mandate made out upon it; at every admission the master was sworn by the bishop to observe the statutes, to alienate nothing, to make no new feoffments, not to mortgage, nor pawn any thing belonging to the college, whether moveable, or immoveable, without the consent of every member.

Alexander Thelyk, priest, late fellow, obtained licence from pope Gregory XII. dated June 3, 1409, that one benefice more, with cure of souls, might be appropriated to the mastership, and that he might hold it with the mastership; but if any master holds a benefice with his mastership before one be appropriated to it, he shall not receive his stipend of 50s. per ann. over and above the benefit of the church of Rushworth, as he usually did before this licence. The petition to obtain this sets forth, "that the college was founded by sir Edmund Gunvyle, late rector, the rectory being turned into a collegiate church, for a custos, or master, and five brethren chaplains, to pray for him, his ancestors, successors, and benefactors, which master was to have the cure of souls, and the benefit of the church there, and that he designed to endow it much better, but died in the mean

mean time." The bishop consented to this licence, and in 1414 this Alexander was presented to the rectory of Larling, by the fellows, and held it with his mastership to his death, yet notwithstanding the pope's bull, and the king's licence upon it, they could never get their rectory of Larling appropriated to them, as they designed.

July 17, 1529, George Windham, A. M. archdeacon of Norwich, was elected master, who was the last master, it being dissolved in his time; he continued archdeacon till 1543.

The scite of this college, with all the revenues thereto belonging, viz. the impropriation, college manor, in Rushworth, Larling manor and advowson, and a manor in Elden, in Suffolk, were granted to the earl of Surrey, to be held *in capite* by knight's service. In 1545, Henry earl of Surrey, by the king's licence, aliened a manor in Elden, and two manors in Rushworth, one in Suffolk, and the other in Norfolk, together with the scite of the college, and the impropriate rectory, with the other revenues of that college, in Fakenham, Thetford, Weston, and Shadwell, to Thomas duke of Norfolk, by whose attainder they fell again to the crown, where they continued till Edward VI. in 1550, granted Rushworth manors and rectory to sir John Cheke, knt. and his heirs, who in 1552 lett them for twenty years to George Allington, of Stoke, by Clare, in Suffolk, gent. who had married his sister; in 1557 sir Richard Fulmerston had the manor, late the college's: In 1570 the earl of Surrey had the manor, late the Fulmerstons; in 1600 the rectory and scite of the college, &c. were granted to lord Howard, of Walden, who had licence in 1601 to sell it to Robert Buxton, on whom the whole

whole was settled by fine, and at this time it continues in his family, John Buxton, esq. being now owner of both the manors and impropriation.

There is a rank of ten or eleven *tumuli*, or mounts of earth, in the field between Rushford, Euston, Barnham; and Thetford, where (Mr. Blomefield verily believes) was fought that dreadful battle between king Edmund and the Danes, in the year 871.

This indeed seems very true, for in the abbreviation of the life of king Edmund, in Register Curtey's, fol. 211<sup>f</sup>, we find this account: "In the 15th year of king Edmund's reign, the Danes came again to East England, to revenge themselves further of the king, at which time they burnt the monasteries of Crowland, Thorney, Peterborough, Ramsey, Soham, and Ely, with most of the religious in them, and from thence passed through the country from West to North, seizing and spoiling all they could, Ubba slaying to guard their spoils, and what they had taken, at or near Ely. Ingwar with his army entered East England, and went to a city of king Edmund's, called *Theodaford*<sup>f</sup>, where he encamped, and entered soon after and burnt it, killing old and young, and ravishing both virgins and matrons. King Edmund, who was then at Eglesden\*, received a message from Ingwar, that if he would renounce Christianity, and worship his idols, then they would divide the treasure with him, together with his kingdom; as soon as king Edmund received this message, he marched with his army against the enemies,

<sup>f</sup> In the hands of the late sir Edmund Bacon, Bart.

<sup>f</sup> Thetford.

\* Now Hoxne, in Suffolk.

enemies, and engaged not far off from Theodford, where they fought sharply from morning until evening, a great number being slain on both sides, for which king Edmund was much grieved, as well for the Pagans deaths, as for those martyrs of his army who died there in defence of their faith; on the morrow the Danes departed, and the king, with what remained of his army, returned to Eglesdune, resolving never more to fight against the Pagans, but if it was necessary, to yield up himself a sacrifice for the people, and for the faith of Christ. Ingwar, much vexed for the losſ of his men, went again to Theodford, where Ubba came to him with 10,000 men, and joining forces, went to Eglesdune, and there martyr'd the king, in the year of our Lord, 871, of his age 29, and of his reign 15."

At this time, without doubt, was that large mount and ramparts, called Thetford-hill, raised by the Danes, in which they encamped; for its being round is a plain demonstration it is a Danish work, raised to that height, in all appearance, to command the opposite hill, on which king Edmund's army then lay, on the extremity of which some of these *tumuli* are placed. The most remarkable one is called Tut-hill, under these the bodies of the slain were buried, it being usual in those days to heap the slain upon the earth, and raise hills over the heaps, that being more likely to continue their memory, than interring them in a pit, or grave level with the earth's surface; and usually where any commander or great men were laid, they raised the hill over them to a larger size than ordinary, which might be the reason of this hill being bigger than the rest.

The college revenues at its dissolution were valued at 85l. 15s. it had a manor, and the impropriate rectory†, and 102 acres of land in Rushford, a manor in Elden, and Larling advowson, and other tenements of their founder's gift, who built them a college on the south side of the church-yard, with a dormitory, refectory, chapel, and other convenient offices, part of which are still standing, and others are in ruins.

In 1470 the lady Anne Wingfield, by the consent of sir Robert Wingfield, her second husband, settled in mortmain her manors of Rushworth, and Larling, called Gonville's manors. This and a few others were the chief of its endowment, though it had other lands and tenements in Thetford, Fakenham, in Suffolk, West-Harling, and Weston : It was governed by statutes, confirmed by Thomas Piercy, bishop of Norwich, in his visitation, the heads of which, as they shew the state of the college, it will not be amiss to insert.

"The college had a master, or custos, and five brethren, or fellows, who were to obey their master in all things lawful, the master to have the cure of the parish, and all of them were to pray for the souls of sir Edmund Gonville, their founder, and of all his ancestors, successors, and benefactors, every day, and to say such daily masses and collects as are therein ordered, and to keep the founder's anniversary in a particular manner, all which would be to no purpose to enlarge upon; as the revenues increase the number to increase, and every new fellow to have ten marks per ann. at least, and neither

† The rectory was taxed at eight marks according to the Lincoln taxation, and after its impropriation paid according to that valuation to the bishop, at every vacancy of the mastership.

neither the master nor fellows to be removed, unless for such crimes as would remove a rector; they are all to sleep in one room, and to eat in common together, unless in sickness, the master to receive a stipend of 50s. a year, and each fellow 30s. (over and above the other stipend). The master to be elected by the fellows; if he be one of the college, the majority is sufficient, but if he be not, then there must be two parts of the fellows, and if the votes be equal, and two chosen, the bishop is to choose which he pleases; every master thus elected, before he be confirmed by the bishop, must go to the manor of Larling, and present himself to the founder's heirs, if they be there, and if not, he may go to the bishop, who is to confirm him; and if they do not choose in three months after a vacancy, it lapses to the bishop, who must collate one of that college. In every vacancy the fellows are to choose one of themselves to look after the college affairs, who is to account to the next master; the fellows to choose the fellows, and each fellowship void above six months lapses to the bishop; every fellow that leaves the college shall leave half his goods to it, and at their admission shall swear obedience to their master, and to promote their college; the fellows were obliged to constant residence, and could not lie one night out of the college, without their master's leave; the master was at full liberty as to his residence, but could not have any of his own family admitted to any office in the college without the consent of the majority of the fellows; the college to have a common seal, which, with the evidences and treasure, shall always be kept in a chest, with three locks, the master to have one key, and such two fellows as all the fellows shall choose to have the other two; the master and fellows to make up their accounts every Michaelmas, and lock up one part of the account in

the chest, and the master to keep the counterpart. The bishop reserves power for him and his successors to visit, correct, and reform, what he thinks necessary, together with all episcopal power, jurisdiction, and other rights whatever belonging to his church of Norwich. Dated at Shouldham, July the 13th, 1360."

This collegiate church was built in form of a cross, the choir, north and south cross aisles, are quite demolished, though there are two grave-stones in the north cross aisle, still to be seen in the yard, but no inscription on them: the nave is now used by the parish, and a small part of it at the east end, separated from the rest, serves for a chancel; there is a very good square tower, having only one bell, though there have been five or six, the frames still remaining; it is a good building, and seems to be of the same date with the foundation of the college. The whole is covered with reed.

There are two hatchments in the church, with the arms of Buxton quartering Herne; Buxton impaling the former coat of pretence, quartered with per chev: vert, and or. three lions passant, counter-changed.

On a black marble, on the south side of the altar,  
—*Hic requiescit quod mortale fuit Roberti Buxton, viri integerrimi, ex antiqua prosapia de channons in agro Norfolciensi oriundi, obiit 15° die Julij, anno ætatis 32°, salutis 1691°.*

On a stone by it,—*Elizabeth Buxton, died July 4, anno Dom. 1730, ætat. 66.*

On a stone in the ruins of the choir,—*John Buxton, esq. died Oct. 27, anno Dom. 1731, ætat. 47.*

This town was in Kenninghall Soken, and the church is a donative, the Rev. William Kemball being curate.

SNAREHILL, or SNARESHALL-HOUSE, which is deemed extraparochial, and (with the lodge, now called Thetford-lodge,) is all that remains of two villages, Great and Little Snarehill; Great Snarehill belonged to Thurstin, of Thetford, a freeman in the Confessor's time, when he had two carucates of demesne; Little Snarehill belonged to Ailvin, or Elgar, of Thetford, who had one carucate, and to Alestan, an Englishman, in the Conqueror's time, when it had 300 sheep belonging to it, five hives of bees, and was of 20s. value. The extent of both was a league long, and half a league broad, and paid 11d. ob. gelt.

Thurstin, of Thetford, had four free-men that had thirty-five acres, which he held under Roger Bigot, who held the whole towns of the Conqueror's gift, (except Bury abbey's part) all which the said Roger settled on his priory at Thetford at its foundation, and Herbert bishop of Norwich, and William Bigot, his son, confirmed it; by this means the church and all its revenues came wholly to that house, who got it appropriated to them very early; for it was in ruins in the time of Edward III. being then valued at 30s. there are scarce any remains of its foundation, though its scite is well known; it stood near Snarehill-house.

It continued in that priory till its dissolution, and then went with it to the duke of Norfolk, by whose family it was afterwards sold, or forfeited, and has since passed through several hands, as the Cleres, sir Edward Clere being lord in 1571, &c. till it came to the

the Buxtons, and Robert Buxton, esq. of St. Margaret, in South Elmham, dying seised, Elizabeth, his wife, had it, who is now dead, and Elizabeth, their daughter, is the owner of it.

The part of which Fulcher held of Bury abbey was held in the time of Henry III. by the 15th part of a fee of Wortwell manor, which was held of the abbey by William Fisher, and John Byntliton.

In 1410 Thomas Welde, clerk, gave to Thetford monks all his lands and tenements which he had of Mary, his mother, lying in this place.

In 1411 Edmund Heyford, of Bernham, gave them two tofts, and sixty acres of ground, and liberty of a free-fold in Snarehill, to encrease their revenues, and maintain them the better; the Bury part was included in this.

There was a family surnamed of this town, of which Benedict de Snarehill lived in 1256.

The leet always belonged to the hundred, but there being no suiters to it in the place, it hath been omitted many years. The whole was in Kenninghall Soken, which may be the reason of the tradition of its belonging to Kenninghall at this time; it is valued with Rushworth to the king's tax, and paid 26s. 8d. to the tenths.

The part on which Thetford-lodge stands, was Little Snarehill, and that where the house stands, Great Snarehill; there are no other inhabitants but these two families. We do not find there was ever any church in Little Snarehill, which is now owned by P. Champion Crespigny, esq.

